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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count data book presents statewide trends in the well-being of Louisiana's children. The statistical report is based on seven major groups of indicators of well-being: (1) poverty; (2) employment and income; (3)children receiving welfare; (4) maternal and child health; (5)children in trouble; (6) child abuse and neglect cases; and (7)public education. Part 1 provides an overview of findings related to poverty; employment and income, focusing on welfare reform and the FIND WORK Program; the lack of health insurance for children; child health indicators; and the need to intervene to improve children's lives. Part 2, the bulk of the document, details demographic and indicator findings for the state as a whole and for each parish, comparing Whites and African Americans. Part 3 provides information on statewide and parish trends from the early to mid-1990s. Findings indicate that about 20 percent of births are to teen mothers; the low birthweight rate is the third highest in the nation; the adequate prenatal care rate has improved; the infant mortality rate for African American infants more than doubles that of white infants; about 5,500 children are placed into foster care each year; and the number of children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) has declined. The report also contains data notes and sources. (KB)

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Kids Count

Data Book on Louisiana's Children

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Agenda for Children

Agenda for Children is Louisiana's statewide comprehensive child advocacy organization. Our mission is to make Louisiana a state in which all children can thrive, by ensuring that the basic needs of children and families are met; by ensuring that our children are nurtured and well-taught, beginning in the early years and continuing through adolescence; by ensuring that children are protected from harm, and by acting in ways which combat racism and other forms of oppression. Agenda for Children compiles information on the status of children, monitors legislation and policies affecting children, and acts as a statewide network capable of generating positive change for children and families. Agenda for Children is a private, non-profit organization supported by individual and corporate memberships, foundation grants, and contracts.

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Louisiana Kids Count

Louisiana Kids Count is a project of Agenda for Children. The purpose of Louisiana Kids Count is to document the conditions of children at the state and parish level in the annual Data Book on Louisiana's Children; to disseminate this information as widely as possible, and to mobilize action for children based on the data findings. The Kids Count mobilization effort, known as "Coming Together for Children and Families," involves organizing at the community level around child and family issues. Louisiana Kids Count is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation of Baltimore, Maryland, which funds Kids Count projects in each state and produces the national Kids Count Data Book. The Casey Foundation is the largest foundation devoted exclusively to disadvantaged children.

Louisiana Kids Count Project Collaborators

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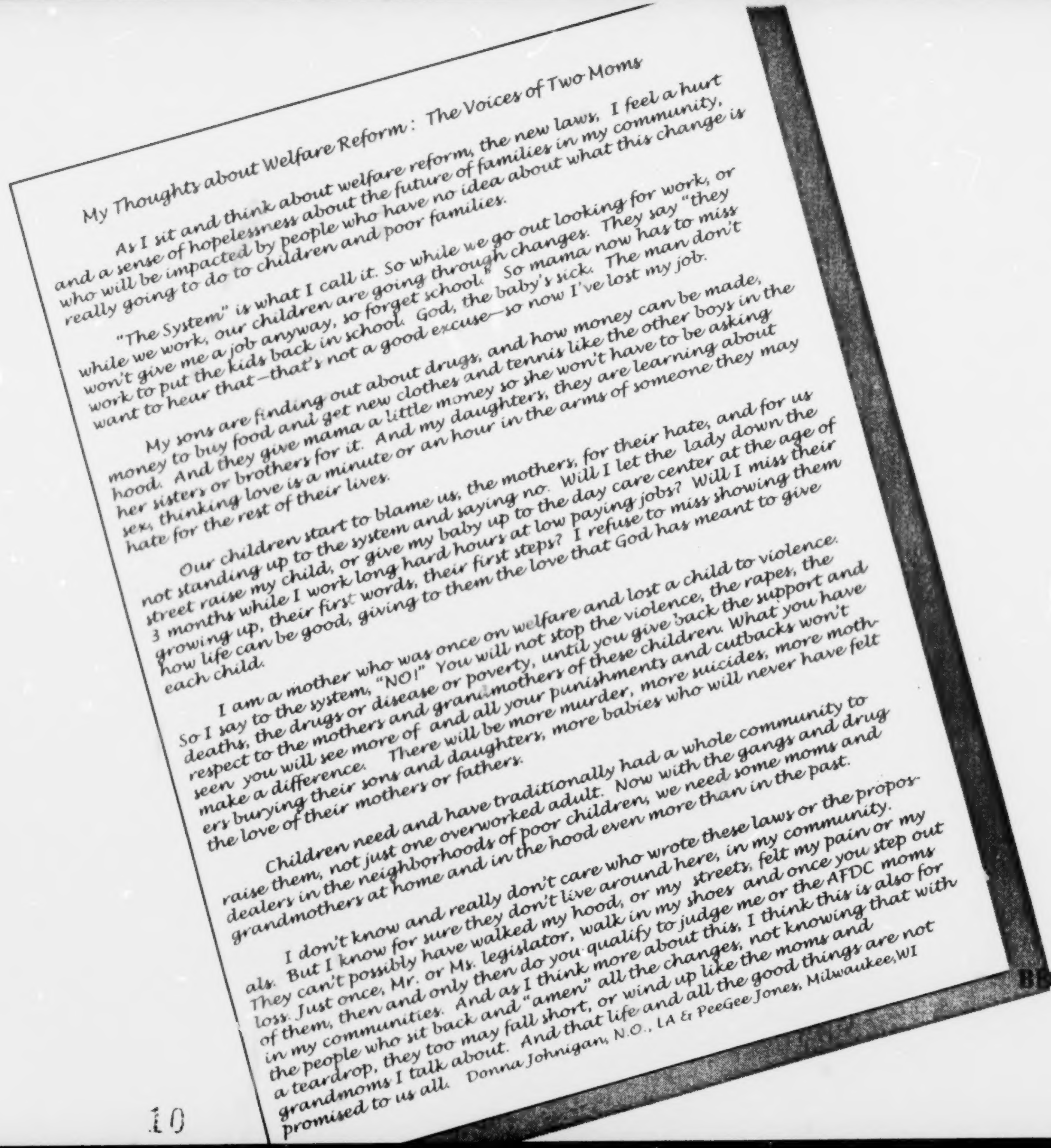

My Thoughts about Welfare Reform: The Voices of Two Moms

As I sit and think about welfare reform, the new laws, I feel a hurt and a sense of hopelessness about the future of families in my community, who will be impacted by people who have no idea about what this change is really going to do to children and poor families.

"The System" is what I call it. So while we go out looking for work, or while we work, our children are going through changes. They say "they won't give me a job anyway, so forget school." So mama now has to miss work to put the kids back in school. God, the baby's sick. The man don't want to hear that—that's not a good excuse—so now I've lost my job.

My sons are finding out about drugs, and how money can be made, money to buy food and get new clothes and tennis like the other boys in the hood. And they give mama a little money so she won't have to be asking her sisters or brothers for it. And my daughters, they are learning about sex, thinking love is a minute or an hour in the arms of someone they may hate for the rest of their lives.

Our children start to blame us, the mothers, for their hate, and for us not standing up to the system and saying no. Will I let the lady down the street raise my child, or give my baby up to the day care center at the age of 3 months while I work long hard hours at low paying jobs? Will I miss their growing up, their first words, their first steps? I refuse to miss showing them how life can be good, giving to them the love that God has meant to give each child.

I am a mother who was once on welfare and lost a child to violence. So I say to the system, "NO!" You will not stop the violence, the rapes, the deaths, the drugs or disease or poverty, until you give back the support and respect to the mothers and grandmothers of these children. What you have seen you will see more of and all your punishments and cutbacks won't make a difference. There will be more murder, more suicides, more mothers burying their sons and daughters, more babies who will never have felt the love of their mothers or fathers.

Children need and have traditionally had a whole community to raise them, not just one overworked adult. Now with the gangs and drug dealers in the neighborhoods of poor children, we need some moms and grandmothers at home and in the hood even more than in the past.

I don't know and really don't care who wrote these laws or the proposals. But I know for sure they don't live around here, in my community. They can't possibly have walked my hood, or my streets, felt my pain or my loss. Just once, Mr. or Ms. legislator, walk in my shoes and once you step out of them, then and only then do you qualify to judge me or the AFDC moms in my communities. And as I think more about this, I think this is also for the people who sit back and "amen" all the changes, not knowing that with a teardrop, they too may fall short, or wind up like the moms and grandmoms I talk about. And that life and all the good things are not promised to us all. Donna Johnigan, N.O., LA & PeeGee Jones, Milwaukee, WI

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CHILDREN IN POVERTY

These are some things we know about poverty. Poverty means you don't have enough. You don't have enough money to buy milk and cereal at the end of the month when Food Stamps have run out. Your baby sister goes to sleep in a wet diaper because mom doesn't have enough to buy a whole box and the last of the three diapers bought at the corner store this morning were used up. Poverty means you had to miss the field trip last week because it cost three dollars and you started school three days late because mom had to get money together for the uniform. Poverty means your shoes pinch your toes but you keep wearing them anyway. Last December the lights got cut off and the landlord put your furniture out on the sidewalk. You and your mom and the baby had to move in with your aunt who didn't want any of you there. She made that perfectly clear.

Poverty means sometimes your mom goes off to work every day. But her paycheck still doesn't cover all of the expenses, and she's not there when you get home from school. When she's not working she gets the welfare check. That's not enough either, but at least she doesn't have to pay $2 a day to ride the bus and she's there when you get home from school. She also doesn't have to pay for day care for the baby and she can get medicine when the asthma hits her. The last job ended after a year when the day care money stopped coming. The one before that ended when you got the chicken pox and mom had to stay home with you for a week only to go back to work to find someone else had her job.

These are some more things we know about poverty. Poverty is the single most significant predictor of poor outcomes for children. Children and families of color are over-represented in the poverty statistics. The 1990 Census reported the poverty rate for African American children at 56.5%, compared to 15.4% for white children. Children of color tend to live in poor areas and thus go to poor schools. Children of color and their parents face racial discrimination in hiring and housing, bank loans and business deals, promotions and perceptions, and all the various privileges that lead to an adequacy of resources.

The current poverty level is $12,980 gross income per year for a family of three. Families with gross annual incomes less than that are considered to be living in poverty.

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

People are poor because there are fewer living wage jobs available to those with limited educational opportunities than there were in the past. People are poor because the money has moved.

A parent working 40 hours a week at minimum wage — currently $4.75 per hour — earns $9,880 a year and, with 2 children, can gain approximately $3,500 in additional income by filing with the IRS for the federal Earned Income Credit. The majority of persons in the low-wage workforce do not work full-time, but for the most part not by choice.

A parent with 2 children receiving welfare gets $2,280 per year. If she is earning a small amount of money she may still keep a portion of welfare assistance, but as soon as she earns $310 per month, she loses eligibility for welfare. Then after one year she loses Medicaid eligibility and guaranteed child care assistance.

The real solutions to the problems of poverty should focus first on making work possible and making work pay. For the most part, people are on welfare because they can't find work or they can't maintain it in the face of child care, health care, transportation and housing costs.

WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT: EFFECTIVE 1/1/97

The new welfare "reform" laws and policies focus on making work necessary, but provisions for making it rected by the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, and including some extra provisions passed earlier by the 1995 Louisiana Legislature the key features of Louisiana's new welfare plan are work participation activities, time limits and sanctions. In marked contrast to the previous welfare reform program - The Family Support Act of 1988, which focused on job training and basic skills — the new version substantially reduces opportunities for workforce preparation and renders major segments of the population of poor children and families ineligible for assistance.

Further, the new law eliminates the entitlement status that has characterized the nation's welfare program since its inception sixty years ago. Instead of being available to all parents with dependent children and little or no income who meet the rules for eligibility, welfare now comes to the states in the form of a Block Grant. This means the allocation is a fixed amount that will not stretch in times of greater need. It also means that when states are successful in discouraging people from applying or moving people off the welfare rolls, toward whatever outcomes, the amount of the state's block grant allocation stays the same.

AFDC no longer exists: FIND WORK

The federal law replaces Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the former cash assistance program known as welfare, with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Louisiana's version of the TANF program is titled FI-TAP, or Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program.

The old Family Support Act enacted by the 1988 Congress operated nationwide under the name JOBS, standing for Job Opportunities and Basic Skills, and in Louisiana as "Project Independence." Under TANF, JOBS and Project Independence have been replaced with "FIND WORK."

Required Activities

The core of FIND WORK is "work participation activities." The law requires that states have 25% of all TANF families participating in work activities at least 20 hours a week in 1997. The required percent and hours go up gradually to 50% of all TANF families and 30 hours per week in the Year 2002. For two-parent families receiving TANF the quotas are higher.

Activities that count toward the work participation quotas include:

- **community service**, as long as it is approved in advance by the state office
- **paid work,** but Louisiana's welfare grants to families are so low that a fairly small number of hours of paid work results in loss of eligibility for cash assistance
- **job search and job readiness assistance,** but not for longer than 6 weeks
- **vocational training,** but only for 12 months
- **basic skills education**, but only for recipients under the age of 20.
- **subsidized employment**, which implies but does not offer an investment of public dollars toward this purpose
- **providing free child care** services for another parent on TANF participating in community service.

Time limits: The Clock is Ticking

Under the 1995 state law, a family may not receive cash assistance for more than 2 years in any 5 year period of time. Exceptions or extensions may be made for those who are looking for work but can't find it, for those who live in areas of the state where factors relating to job availability are "unfavorable" as defined by the state, and for those who are incapacitated or disabled.

The federal law adds an absolute five year lifetime limit with possible hardship exemptions capped at no more than 20% of the population receiving cash assistance.

Time limits began running on January 1, 1997. Thus, no recipient of welfare cash assistance should lose eligibility due to time limits until January 1, 1999. There are, however, other reasons that will cause some to lose their benefits earlier.

Sanctions

A family will lose their welfare benefits if the parent refuses to accept a full-time job "without good cause."

A child of school age will be subject to being removed from the family's welfare grant if he or she misses more than 15 days of school in a six-month period. Parents will be held responsible for producing documentation of satisfactory attendance.

Teen parents receiving welfare must be in school unless they have graduated, must attend parenting classes, and — unless they are married — must live with a parent or an approved substitute guardian.

A whole family will lose eligibility for welfare if the mother fails to cooperate with the state in establishing paternity or obtaining child support.

Anyone convicted of a drug related felony offense (after 8/22/96) may be permanently ineligible for cash assistance. The State can opt out of this provision or pass legislation to limit the time of ineligibility.

A child whose immunizations are not current may be removed from the family's welfare grant.

Legal Immigrants

The new federal law bars most current and future legal immigrants from receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income for the elderly and disabled) and Food Stamps, unless and until they become citizens. There are some exceptions for refugees, individuals with a ten-year work history, and veterans. States have the option under federal law to also bar legal immigrants from TANF and Medicaid. Louisiana has chosen to allow TANF eligibility to continue for the 600 immigrant Louisiana families receiving AFDC in October, 1996. However, the state has moved to ban all legal immigrants from Medicaid. The impact of this decision will be severe for low income women and children, but even more so for 10,348 elderly and disabled immigrants (Sue Weishar, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, 2/14/97).

Facing the loss of SSI, Medicaid, and Food Stamps with no other means of support, most elderly immigrants have very little hope for obtaining U.S. citizenship, given the required English language skills and knowledge of U.S. history, and even slimmer prospects for finding a job. The result is widespread panic and even talk of suicide among disabled and elderly immigrants.

More People Than Jobs

The fundamental problem with "FIND WORK" is that there simply aren't enough paying jobs to accommodate the numbers of individuals who will be forced off welfare by the end of 1998. University of New Orleans economist Tim Ryan estimates that the state's economy produces roughly 15,000 new entry-level jobs per year. Adding roughly 60,000 adult recipients of welfare to 140,000 unemployed individuals currently seeking employment creates a job shortfall of 170,000, and that's assuming that the state will indeed produce 30,000 new jobs by January 1, 1999.

Child Care and Health Care in Working Families

The next problem is that those who are able to move from welfare to work typically enter the workforce at low wage jobs, often part-time, with no benefits. Costs of employment — most notably transportation and child care — quickly consume the major portion of a small paycheck, and health care moves out of the reach of most workers upon the loss of Medicaid eligibility.

The state plans to provide child care assistance and continued Medicaid eligibility for one year when a parent moves off welfare into a job. When that year ends some families may be able to access continued child care assistance, depending on how many slots the state provides. Younger children may retain Medicaid eligibility (see section on Medicaid). Without health care for the family and assistance with the cost of child care, maintaining low wage employment becomes even more difficult. Many parents are likely to find themselves jobless after the first illness or when the paycheck doesn't stretch far enough to pay for the child care.

The integral role of child care in a parent's ability to secure and maintain employment raises issues beyond affordability. There will be critical gaps in the supply of child care in many areas of the state and for some specific child care needs, e.g., infant and school age care, split shift and night shift care, and care for children with special needs.

An even more critical issue is the quality of care available. Louisiana licensing standards tend to be weak, especially in the area of child / staff ratios, e.g., 1 caregiver for 6 infants or 12 two-year-olds. Child care providers who may want to offer high quality care are limited by the level of fees paid by the state through child care assistance — currently $50-$55 per week, depending on the age of the child - and by the capacity of unassisted low-income families to pay. Informal care arrangements outside of licensed or certified facilites may cost less but also tend to offer less in terms of reliability and stability.

Further barriers to quality and stability in licensed care as well as informal care are presented by frequent staff turnover and a shortage of well-trained caregivers willing to work at very low wages. Teaching and caring methods tend to mirror practices used in elementary schools rather than practices appropriate to the developmental needs and capabilities of young children.

Parents in the workforce who cannot find child care will not be likely to seek employment. Parents in the workforce whose child care is unreliable are likely to have attendance and performance problems that lead to termination, and parents who are not comfortable with the care their children are receiving often choose to leave their jobs.

Maintaining a Safety Net: Exceptions and Extensions

Given that there will be roughly 6 or 7 job seekers for each job opening, there will obviously be a large number of families with no visible means of support when January, 1999 arrives. The exemptions and extensions outlined in the 1995 state law could provide some semblance of a safety net but the state must define and clarify the rules that will be used to determine who qualifies. What counts as documentation of an active but as yet unsuccessful work search? What unfavorable factors relating to job availability will be considered worthy of allowing an exemption or extension to the two-year limits? How is "incapacity" or "disability" to be defined?

Clarity is also needed regarding sanctions. What is "good cause" for refusing to accept a full-time job? Does a lack of available child care, or a lack of good child care, count as good cause? What about a combination of arduous work and physical difficulties? What if an 8 or 8 $^{1}/_{2}$ hour day and a long commute keeps a mother away from home for eleven hours or more? Individuals need a clear view of their options in order to make the best possible decisions for themselves and their families.

Families and school systems as well need to know what is necessary to document an excused absence in determining a school-age child's continued eligibility for welfare. Will the reporting requirements be made consistent with the school systems' attendance reporting schedules? Teen parents need to know what opportunities for parenting classes are available and approved. Will child care be provided? Mothers need to know whether a missed appointment constituted failure to cooperate with paternity establishment and whether they can intentionally "refuse" to identify the father if they have good reasons to fear his retribution.

While we could all agree that the best alternative to welfare is a decent job, it is fairly clear that this option will not be available to everyone within the prescribed time limits. Exceptions and extensions to the time limits represent a lifeline for thousands of children and families. The specific terms defining grounds for sanctions must be made clear in order that families can do their best to comply. It is critical that guidance on these issues be clearly, widely, and promptly provided.

Workforce Preparation

Most parents receiving cash assistance would rather be employed at a living wage. In addition to the insufficiency of jobs — especially living wage jobs, or even entry level jobs likely to lead to a living wage — and the cost of child care and health care, a lack of sufficient and appropriate skills and qualifications represent a primary barrier to employment for many welfare recipients.

In this light, the state's decision to restrict access to basic skills education and vocational training seems counter-productive. Federal block grant and state dollars can legitimately be used to provide training and adult education. However, these activities do not count toward the federal work participation quotas. For the majority of adults receiving welfare, community service and related activities are not likely to lead directly to paid employment, especially if unaccompanied by appropriate skills training.

While the state's intentions to meet the quotas are understandable, options need to be weighed. The state can actually reduce work participation requirements by earning federal credits available to states that reduce their caseloads. Education and training targeted toward available jobs are generally considered the optimal route toward reducing caseloads. The state could even choose to take the penalty for not meeting the quotas, in the interest of investing in good outcomes for its citizens. Relative to the increased funds that the state is getting overall in the TANF Block Grant, the penalty for falling short of the work activity quotas is small. The Congressional Budget Office projects that most states will opt to accept sanctions in light of the sacrifices and administrative effort necessary to meet the quotas.

A final option might be to creatively combine training and basic skills education with on-the-job training, community service, or subsidized employment.

The Missing Link: Child Support

A major contributor to families' need for public assistance is the failure or inability of an absent parent to contribute the support of children.

The welfare reform bill contains sweeping revisions of the federal child support statute and restructures the administration of child support into centralized collections and disbursement and nationwide registries (National Governor's Association et al., 1996).

Under the new law, assistance will be denied to applicants or recipients of welfare and their families for failure to cooperate in establishing paternity or obtaining child support (Department of Social Services, 1997). The law added provisions for tougher enforcement of child support orders, including the establishment of a federal registry to track at-large parents, requirements that employers report new hires to the state and requirements for states to establish an automated centralized unit by October, 1998 to collect and disburse support payments.

There is certainly room for improvement in moving child support cases through the system. In Louisiana, only 38.7% of child support cases have orders for collection established. The rest are waiting for some type of action. The children must wait with their cases: for clothes, school supplies and any other need or want that might be denied because the money simply isn't there.

Uninsured Children

Parents rank their children's health as their greatest concern. It is a major societal concern as well. One of the first steps in ensuring children's good health is to assure that they receive those primary, preventive, and screening services that produce good health outcomes.

Because of an inability to pay, 20% of Louisiana children are denied access to consistent, comprehensive health care. These are primarily children of parents who work but have no health benefits for their family (General Accounting Office, 1996). Some may find it surprising that most of the state's uninsured children are children of families who have at least one wage earner. Many of these parents are working in the jobs that are vital to our lives and make our state function. They work in hotels, universities, gas stations, restaurants, on construction sites or in the health care field where, with sad irony, they help deliver the very services they and their children are denied.

Of Louisiana uninsured children:
16% are infants to 5 years old
41% are 6 to 12 years old
43% are 13 to 18 years old

The Southern Institute on Children and Families, 1996.

The children in these families live in a nation with an abundance of the world's most sophisticated health technologies, but often cannot reach basic health services. Even when their children are sick or injured, families often find that health care is unaffordable or out of reach. Low-income working parents face choices many other parents would find unthinkable. Taking a job for an employer who does not provide health insurance can mean becoming ineligible for the health coverage provided to the state's poorest families. Only 13% of all workers earning less than $5 per hour had employer-based health care coverage nationally (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 1996). Indeed, many families receiving cash assistance can tell you that one of the biggest obstacles to their leaving welfare for employment is that doing so would eliminate their family's access to health care coverage.

Parents working for low wages cannot solve the problem by purchasing their own coverage nor can they pay typical medical bills without sacrificing essentials. Ultimately, most parents conclude that it is in the best interest of their family to tend to the essentials of day to day life and hope and pray that they and the kids won't need to see a doctor.

Given the new time limits and work requirements in the new welfare law, there will be more parents who are thrust into a labor market increasingly inhospitable to the health insurance needs of families with children. According to the General Accounting Office, the percentage of children with private health insurance coverage reached its lowest level in eight years in 1994. Further, among children with a parent working full-time during the entire year, approximately 25% lacked private health insurance. Many low income working parents are not able to secure full-time employment, and a part-time job rarely offers health insurance.

Uninsured children are usually without a regular source of care and receive only limited access to health care services in general. Without health insurance, parents frequently delay taking their children to doctors hoping the illness will go away. Sometimes it does, but when it doesn't the child is at greater risk of more serious health problems, the illness becomes costlier to treat, and too often permanent impairment occurs. Clearly, a visit to the emergency room is more expensive than one to a doctor's office, in the short term as well as the long term.

Given the advanced state of our health care delivery system and the fact that children are not an expensive group to cover under Medicaid (National Association of Child Advocates, 1996), there is no reason for children in any state of this nation to suffer from preventable illnesses, untreated injuries, or needless developmental delays and disabilities.

MEDICAID

Medicaid was created in 1965 as a companion program to Medicare. In Louisiana, there are 327,565 children who rely on Medicaid for their health care needs. Medicaid is a key source of health care coverage for children in poor and working poor families. Medicaid is also a source of health care coverage for families when parents are transitioning off welfare or for young children whose parents are working in low wage jobs without benefits. Medicaid also helps maintain a strong health care delivery system. For example, children's hospitals rely heavily on Medicaid for their operating budgets.

Medicaid is currently an entitlement program, which means that all individuals who meet eligibility standards can receive the benefit. Services which must be covered include physician services, in and out patient hospital services, prenatal care and early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment (EPSDT) services for children under age 21.

Louisiana is among only two other Southern states which have not exercised the option to broaden the minimum eligibility levels set by the federal government for Medicaid. Also contributing to the problem of uninsured kids is the fact that not all children who are eligible for Medicaid are enrolled. Of uninsured children nationally, 30% are eligible for Medicaid but not receiving it (Southern Institute on Children and Families, 1996). This is due, at least in part, to the fact that outreach efforts have not successfully informed families that children not receiving cash assistance can still qualify for Medicaid. More of these children would be covered if there were better outreach and simplified enrollment. It appears, however, that we are moving in the opposite direction.

Despite these limitations, Medicaid is an increasingly important health care safety net. It also makes good economic sense. For every $28 that the state invests in the health of its low income children and families, the federal government provides a $72 match. By building on existing public health services, children who are currently without insurance can be covered.

WHO IS COVERED?

Being poor does not automatically qualify a person for Medicaid. Only persons who fall into particular categories are eligible. Although Medicaid has increasingly been used to expand coverage to the low income population, thousands of uninsured Louisianians are beyond the programs reach (Louisiana Health Care Campaign, 1996).

Income eligibility levels for pregnant women and children in Medicaid:

LOUISIANA MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY LEVELS
annual income, family of three (1996)

Age	Income	Percent of Poverty
Birth to 1	$17,263	133%
1 - 5	$17,263	133%
6 - 12	$12,980	100%
13 - 18	$2,280	17.6%

As with other social programs, Medicaid is in the midst of change, with more changes being proposed all the time. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 eliminated the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and eliminates automatic Medicaid eligibility for persons eligible for TANF cash assistance. Though TANF recipients may still be eligible, new procedures will be necessary.

About half of the children on Medicaid in Louisiana do not receive welfare cash assistance from the government. These are generally children of families with at least one adult employed in a job that does not offer health insurance for themselves and/or their children.

As noted earlier, children are not an expensive group to cover under Medicaid. While children account for more than half of all Medicaid beneficiaries, they account for less than one-quarter of Medicaid costs nationally (Medicaid Managed Care: an advocates guide to protecting children p. I-19). The 1996 welfare law has also made it more difficult for disabled children to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and will limit their eligibility for Medicaid also.

MEDICAID MANAGED CARE ON THE HORIZON

Louisiana is looking to managed care as an answer to soaring Medicaid costs, as 40 other states have begun to do. This shift from traditional fee-for-service system of payment has been largely driven by financial considerations. Medicaid expenditures, like private health insurance costs, have grown rapidly. Across the nation, the experience with Medicaid managed care has been mixed in terms of health access and cost effectiveness (Louisiana Health Care Campaign, 1996).

Managed care is a term used to describe health care systems that integrate the financing and delivery of health care services by arrangements with selected providers to furnish a comprehensive set of health services. The method of payment is by capitation, or a fixed fee per person for a specific period of time without regard to the number of visits.

There are various types of managed care organizations, the fastest growing type being the Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO). Since HMOs are paid a set fee for each enrolled person, the incentive becomes to keep people out of hospitals and presumably in better health through providing preventive and primary care. When you're in managed care one provider is responsible for your care, essentially functioning as a gatekeeper through whom you access the other care you need.

As Louisiana moves toward managed care as the primary mechanism for delivering health care, citizens and policymakers must insist on safeguards to prevent problems that have emerged in other states. There must be rigorous oversight, accountable to consumers, to ensure better access to primary care, protection from marketing abuses, timely and effective grievance procedures, and a mechanism to hold HMOs responsible for delivering quality care and consistent, reliable, readily accessible services.

CHILD HEALTH INDICATORS

This book contains a number of measures which gauge the state of children's health. With previous and pending changes in public policy regarding insurance, public commitment to health care and overall changes in the health care delivery system, it becomes increasingly important to monitor the indicators of children's health. The indicators included here are among the baseline measures of children's health.

BIRTHS TO TEENS

Louisiana has one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the country, at 19.1%. While no one should assume that teen parents and their children are destined for failure, the evidence is overwhelming that becoming a parent too soon tends to limit the life options of both the parents and their children. Teen parents often fail to finish school. They are much more likely to live in poverty and suffer the consequences of limited resources. Teens who arrive early at parenthood find their own development impeded. They often miss out on the milestones that function as rites of passage for others of their age cohort— graduating from high school, entering college, trade school, or deciding upon a job path, and transitioning, rather than being thrust, into independence.

Allie was a pregnant teen referred to FINS (an early intervention program discussed below) by her parents. After a thorough psychological assessment and family service plan Allie was connected with the Parenting Center in her parish. Allie attended parenting and prenatal classes there and was paired with a "Mentor Mom." Allie and her FINS officer created a plan which allowed Allie to complete her education. She has now received her GED (equivalent to a high school diploma) and is planning to be in college by the fall of 1997.

LOW BIRTHWEIGHT INFANTS

The rate of low birthweight (infants born weighing less than 2500 grams or 5.5 pounds) has decreased in recent years. Low birthweight has been associated with increased mortality as well as developmental, learning or hearing problems for those children later on. Factors which place pregnant women at higher risk of delivering low birthweight infants include inadequate prenatal care, smoking, substance abuse and stress.

PRENATAL CARE

Adequate health care during pregnancy increases the likelihood of healthy babies because medical and developmental problems can be detected early and high-risk health habits of the mother discouraged. The American Public Health Association has estimated that every $1 spent on prenatal care saves three and a half times that much in expenditures for the care of low birthweight babies (Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, 1990). The trend in this area has been positive, but there are wide disparities by race and parish which persist.

State Comparison by Race
Adequate Prenatal Care

white: 83% **African American:** 60.3%

Parishes with the highest total rates of adequate prenatal care: Cameron, Jefferson, LaFourche, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany

Parishes with the lowest total rates of adequate prenatal care: Acadia, East Carroll, Lincoln, Morehouse and Winn

A public health objective, set forth in "Healthy People 2000" is to increase to 90% the number of pregnant women receiving prenatal care in their first trimester (Parish Health Profile). This can be a goal Louisiana could successfully reach, with the adequate outreach and access to medical care that we are capable of providing.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

The infant mortality rate documents the deaths of children during their first year of life. The Office of Public Health (OPH) notes that most of these deaths are preventable. OPH lists risk factors associated with infant mortality, which include giving birth at under 19 years of age or over 40 years of age, leaving less than 2 years between births, poor maternal health or nutrition, inadequate prenatal care and exposure to toxins such as alcohol, drugs and tobacco smoke (Parish Health Profile, 1995). The trend in infant mortality has improved in the last five years, from 10.9 per 1,000 live births in 1993 to 10.4 in 1995.

IMMUNIZATION

The immunization figure in this book reflects the percentage of children immunized at public health clinics whose immunizations are up to date at age 2. Approximately 70% of Louisiana children receive their immunization at public clinics. The trend in immunization is positive, increasing by 21% from 1991 to 1995.

Immunization rate

1992	1993	1994	1995
55%	59%	64%	75%

CHILDREN IN TROUBLE

Adolescence is the time when children begin making decisions that have significant impact on their futures. Too many of our young people are making decisions that lead them into trouble. In Louisiana from June 1995 to July 1996, 14,755 encountered the Office of Youth Development after being caught in crimes ranging from truancy to homicide.

In the face of daily reports of children getting into trouble, juvenile crime - particularly violent crime - is a major concern throughout the state and the nation. Young people themselves fear the violence that's in their homes and on the streets of their neighborhoods, for not only are youth sometimes the perpetrators of crime, they're also victims of it. The overall homicide victim rate among teenagers is 33.5 per 100,000 15 to 19 year olds. The breakdown of this figure by race is particularly staggering: 80 out of every 100,000 African American teens is a victim of homicide, compared to 5.4 per 100,000 white teens.

Sometimes teens die violently at their own hands. The suicide rate among teenagers is 10.6 per 100,000. White teens have the highest rate of suicide at 12.2 per 100,000. The rate among African American youth is 8.2 per 100,000.

The senseless violent death of young people devastates families. It also takes a tremendous toll on the child's peers, community, and our overall sense of hope when our children don't live long enough to grow up.

As a state, we can — and we must — provide our young people with better options and instill in them a sense of optimism about a future that inspires good decisions now.

INTERVENING BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

As a state we can also become more determined to rescue our youth from their own bad decisions before the outcomes become horrible.

One of the avenues we have for protecting children is through the Families in Need of Services (FINS) Programs, attached to juvenile and district courts throughout the state. Working with schools, courts, probation and other systems that intervene with children in trouble, FINS is designed to reach kids at the first sign of trouble. It's a way of catching kids when they trip instead of turning aside and letting them fall. FINS includes the family in the process of reaching the child, and has had significant success in reaching families and children who otherwise may have continued on a negative path.

Emily's Story

Emily, a 15 year old female, was referred to FINS with problems of truancy, running away, and chronic alcohol abuse. Upon assessment, Emily was discovered to be chemically dependent and had a family history of chemical dependency issues. Her father was serving time in prison for drug possession and robbery. There was a long history of domestic violence, most currently being committed by her mother's boyfriend.

Emily, upon self report, admitted to drinking and smoking marijuana with her mother's boyfriend and often having to lock herself in her room in fear of his sexual advances and violent behaviors when her mother was not present. She often reported taking care of him when he became so drunk as to not be able to function. Emily's substance abuse problems had advanced to a point where she was often skipping school and found at neighbors' houses drinking as early as 7:30 a.m. She had also begun to steal from home and from neighbors. Emily was sexually active and at risk of becoming pregnant.

A family service plan was drawn up. Emily began individual and family counseling with her mother at a non-profit community agency. Family counseling for her and her mother was also facilitated through the agency. Her mother agreed to leave the boyfriend and find another place to live with Emily. After establishing their immediate safety, both began to work on their chemical dependency issues and Emily's mother became very involved in taking on her role as mother rather than friend to Emily, as she had previously attempted. After some outpatient work, Emily was referred to an inpatient chemical dependency program through a coordinated effort with the state substance abuse clinic. Her mother continued outpatient counseling, and Emily, upon completion of her program, returned to family counseling.

FINS officers also arranged for her to become involved in a church youth program and attend local Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Much more of Emily's chaotic, abusive family history was discovered as she continued to work with FINS.

officers for an entire year. Emily was also able to break off her unhealthy relationship with her own boyfriend and maintain no sexual activity for the remainder of her time in the FINS program. She began to recognize the emptiness she felt in her self that she was trying to fill through sexual relations with male peers. State mental health was also contacted and, after an evaluation, Emily was put on a short term trial of anti-depressants for four months during which time she was able to learn and practice new, healthy coping skills.

Six months after completing the FINS program, Emily is now 17. She is actively attending school and remains sober. Her mother has returned to school and is expected to finish her nursing degree within the next two years. More importantly, Emily's mother has become just that... a mother. She has stopped her negative behavior and has truly become a role model to Emily. Emily has written letters and placed calls to the FINS office on occasion to thank them and to allow them to hear her continued progress.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Emily's story is unfortunately not typical for abused and neglected children and their families. Louisiana's child protection office is overburdened and underfunded, resulting in an apparent tendency to limit the number of cases accepted for investigation and intervention. The only immediately available way to do this is to refuse to validate and follow up on reports that do not indicate immediate, serious physical danger to a child. The approach is not necessarily consistent. Some cases of lesser risk may be accepted, depending on caseloads, calls, and the judgment of the screener. But the tendency will be to substantially limit the response. Unfortunately, without some sort of intervention — whether it be public or private, community or family — a pattern of even potentially abusive or neglectful behavior tends to escalate. Thus by the time the case meets the standard of risk that requires a response from child protection, the situation is so severe as to require removing the child from the home.

Once a child enters foster care or institutional care in the custody of the state, efforts should be made to help the original family solve the problems that led to the removal of the child. Unfortunately, the state's resources for family help fall way short of the mark - whether it be intensive therapy that is needed or cash to put the lights on and food in the refrigerator. So the children remain in the state's care. The situation is exacerbated by the difficulty in recruiting and keeping foster parents, probably due to the payment rate and the increasing level of difficulty that more severely damaged children present. The state cannot refuse children. To do so would be to defy a court order. When foster families cannot be identified, children are placed in institutional care which is much more expensive. The Legislature consistently underfunds foster care, so the department has to find the money somewhere else, and we are back at the front line where the calls come in, refusing to intervene.

Now comes the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 - welfare reform - threatening to deprive thousands of Louisiana families of income altogether and throw 1.1 million more of the nation's children into poverty. (Urban Institute, 1996.) Poverty is extremely stressful and stress can lead to abuse. Having no income can obviously lead quickly to situations that may be considered serious neglect. To quote Mark Courtney of the University of Wisconsin's Institute for Research on Poverty, "Growth in child poverty...is likely to lead to an increase in child maltreatment, and a corresponding increase in demand for child welfare services including substitute care." (Columbia University School of Social Work, 1997). Note that "child welfare" is the term used to define the array of services for abused, neglected, and otherwise temporarily or permanently parent-less children. Services include child protection, family treatment, foster care, and adoption. Note also that child welfare services cost substantially more than welfare cash assistance to families.

Prevention of child abuse and neglect is the obvious answer to this mammoth problem, this cycle spinning out of control. Louisiana's Children's Trust Fund for the prevention of child abuse does a valiant job - through dozens of fine programs throughout the state that empower children, support parents, and bring communities together toward building healthy well-functioning families. But these fine efforts pale in the face of the threat that advances.

EDUCATION

One of the most fundamental indicators of a child's future well being is education. Educational attainment is negatively correlated with poverty, which means that the more education a person has, the less likely they are to be poor.

The good news in this is that education can break the cycle of disadvantage. The bad news is there seems to be a vicious cycle operating here: poor children enter school with challenges to learning, such as untreated health problems, inadequate nutrition, living in neighborhoods where violence is a daily threat, and living in homes where unstable finances create perpetual stress. The schools they arrive at each morning are too often inadequately equipped to educate them. There may be too few books and no computers, buildings may be deteriorating, there may be too little heat in the winter and no air conditioning to combat the sweltering Louisiana heat. And most significantly, when children arrive at school to find teachers who have low expectations of their success, they absorb negative messages.

DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL

Although the Department of Education does not calculate a graduation rate, we can look at the number of public school students in grades 7 through 12 who leave school before graduating. In the 1994-95 school year, 8,928 Louisiana children dropped out of school. That's 24 students each and every day — about the equivalent of a classroom full. The majority of students who drop out do so in the ninth and tenth grades.

The quality of schools students attend, the presence of positive role models, the adequacy of family income, and the ability to access health and social services when needed are among the factors which affect the educational attainment of the next generation of adults.

INVESTING IN CHILDREN WHILE THERE'S TIME

The range of data indicators in this book — poverty, employment, child health, children in trouble, child abuse, and education — are fundamental measures of children's well-being. Research and practical experience tell us that children who face a number of adverse circumstances, such as poverty, inadequate health care, and poor education, experience significantly worse outcomes than children who do not face such disadvantages.

It is possible to break the cycle of disadvantage. Scholars Robert Haveman and Barbara Wolfe followed one group of young people for two decades, looking at the life circumstances and outcomes for these youth. They saw how societal circumstances as well as parental and personal choices impacted on the success the group experienced later in life. Their findings suggest that to break the cycle of disadvantage, we must commit to the following:

> Seek to strengthen American Families and enable them to exercise their desires to be economically self-sufficient. Help them to live in neighborhoods that will support their economic goals and instincts for stability. Where serious deficits in resources and stability — or excesses of family-based stress — plague particular children, provide intensive support and counseling designed to offset these problems. And, above all, seek to increase the educational attainment of the next set of the nation's parents, concentrating efforts on minimizing the number of those without even a high-school diploma. (Haveman and Wolfe, Succeeding Generations, page 263).

Our current public policy decisions are a far cry from "supporting families reach their economic goals" and "providing intensive support" to augment serious deficits. But they needn't be. We've seen repeatedly that investments in children pay-off in personal, social and economic terms. Engineering punitive policies against the parents — mostly mothers — of disadvantaged children will contribute nothing towards improving children's well-being. Nor will such policies magically create jobs, increase skill levels, or improve health care and child care access for the families they intend to "reform." One generation's economic decisions have an impact on the next. By investing our time, money and energy in what we know works for kids rather than what is politically expedient, we can ensure that the impact we have on the next generation is a positive one.

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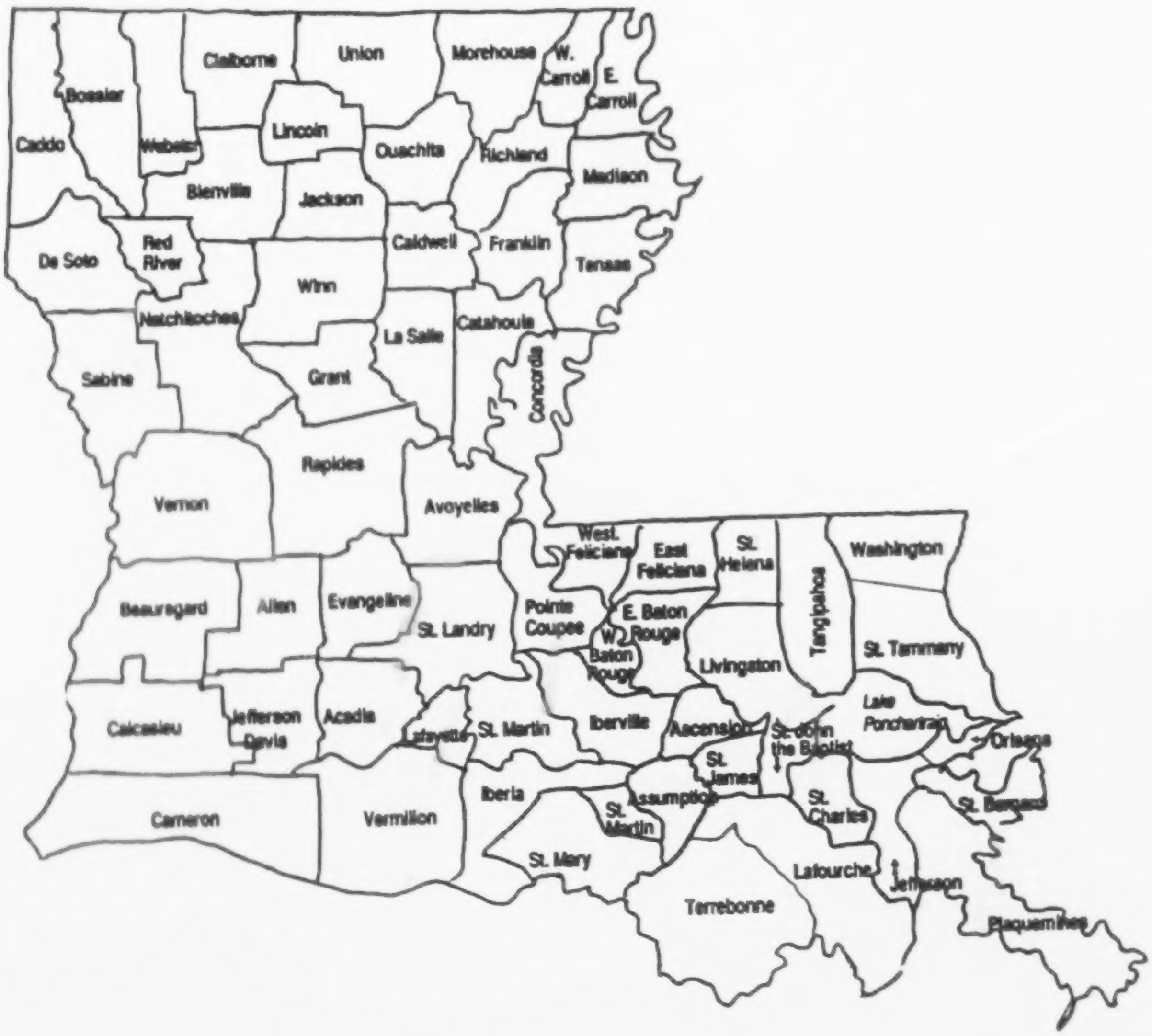
Louisiana I Love You

Lousiana, I love you. You look like a raggy toed boot, and you are like the crawfish on Friday at my grandpa's house. Louisiana, I love you. You are the smell of my dog in my back yard. You look like the swamp in Lake Charles. You are like the flowers by our pond and the pine trees around our house. You taste like the gumbo that my grandma makes and the catfish that my great grandpa makes. Louisiana, I love you. You feel like the mud in my front yard, and when my turtle bit me and the sun shining on a hot summer day. Louisiana, I love you. You sound like a cricket in the night, and the rain, and my bird singing a song.

Leah Tatum
third grade - Beauregard Parish
(as appears in the Louisiana School Directory, Bulletin 1462, La. Dept. of Education)

Children in Louisiana

Map of Louisiana


Claiborne
Union
Morehouse
W. Carroll
E. Carroll
Bossier
Caddo
Webster
Lincoln
Ouachita
Richland
Madison
Bienville
Jackson
De Soto
Red River
Caldwell
Franklin
Tensas
Winn
Natchitoches
La Salle
Catahoula
Concordia
Sabine
Grant
Rapides
Vernon
Avoyelles
West Feliciana
East Feliciana
St. Helena
Washington
Tangipahoa
Beauregard
Allen
Evangeline
St. Landry
Pointe Coupee
E. Baton Rouge
W. Baton Rouge
Livingston
St. Tammany
Calcasieu
Jefferson Davis
Acadia
Lafayette
St. Martin
Iberville
Ascension
St. John the Baptist
Lake Ponchartrain
Orleans
St. James
Cameron
Vermilion
Iberia
Assumption
St. Charles
St. Bernard
St. Martin
St. Mary
Lafourche
Jefferson
Terrebonne
Plaquemines

Children in Louisiana

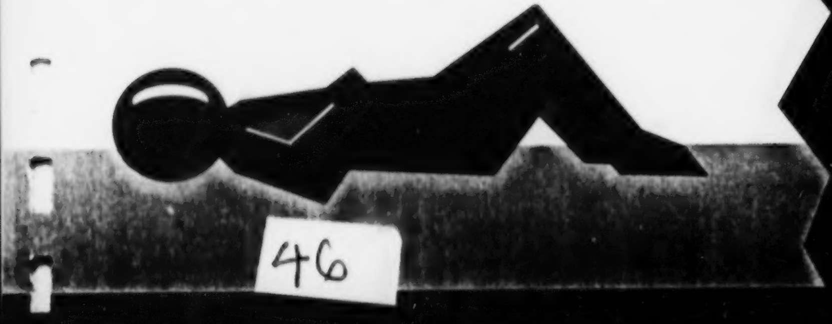
	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			4,350,579
Under 18 (1994)	809,442	533,431	1,368,797
Under 5 (1994)	195,339	135,354	337,480
POVERTY & INCOME (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			23.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			30.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (January1997)			
Median Family Income			$34,400
% Unemployed			6.8
Number Unemployed			135,000
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996):			
AFDC			156,392
Medicaid			327,565
Average AFDC Household Size			3
Average AFDC Monthly Payment			$155
Food Stamps	58,147	229,807	293,509
Average Food Stamps Household Size			2.6
Average Food Stamps Payment			$181
WIC			103,559
Child Care Assistance			7,894
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			3,036
Earned Income Tax Credit (# of families, 1996)			469,285
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	37,348	26,807	65,574
% Births to Teens	13.3	27.7	19.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.7	14.0	9.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	83.1	60.3	73.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births)	6.1	15.2	9.7
% Children without Health Insurance			20.2
% Up-to-Date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			79.0
Child Death Rate (rate per 100,000)	26.0	49.8	35.0
Teen Violent Death Rate (rate per 100,000)	75.9	123.6	93.9
Teen Suicide Rate (rate per 100,000)	12.2	8.2	10.6

Children in Louisiana

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (cont.)			
Teen Accident Death Rate (rate per 100,000)	58.3	35.4	49.8
Teen Homicide Rate (rate per 100,000)	5.4	80.0	33.5
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	4,250	10,292	14,755
Assault/Battery			2,156
Burglary			2,307
Drugs			1,632
Theft			2,871
Homicide			178
Robbery			577
Sex Crimes			311
Status Offenses			1,104
Weapons			595
Other Property Crimes			1,251
Other Crimes Against Persons			573
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Valid Abuse and Neglect Cases (# of children)	6,175	8,381	14,863
Physical Abuse			3,051
Neglect			10,243
Sexual Abuse			947
Children in Foster Care	1,846	3,921	5,895
PUBLIC EDUCATION 1994-95 school year			
Registration	399,702	352,567	774,046
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,385
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,566
Children Receiving Special Education Services			91,391
Dropouts			8,928
CHILD SUPPORT (fiscal year 1996)			
Number of Cases			330,711
% Collection Cases to Total Cases			38.7
Amount Owed			$168,105,648
Amount Paid			$153,237,217

"I dream I have
a pretty little house,
and I share it
with my family."

*- Tina Hawkins, 1st grade,
Jackson, LA*



Children in the Parishes

Parish Rankings on Six Key Indicators

(ranked best to worst 1 - 64)

	% children in poverty	% unemployed	% births to teens	per pupil expenditure	infant death rate	% female householder w. children < 18 in poverty
Acadia	41	14	37	63	54	54
Allen	31	43	41	39	18	46
Ascension	9	11	7	20	22	24
Assumption	37	45	30	48	7	34
Avoyelles	57	48	35	57	44	62
Beauregard	10	30	16	28	51	13
Bienville	53	64	26	19	31	42
Bossier	6	23	8	25	9	7
Caddo	44	18	33	26	36	14
Calcasieu	14	22	29	41	27	12
Caldwell	27	56	39	24	1	33
Cameron	2	11	4	1	57	5
Catahoula	51	59	53	13	1	49
Claiborne	45	49	20	37	53	36
Concordia	48	61	64	33	47	43
DeSoto	54	46	51	16	63	39
East Baton Rouge	11	7	3	4	41	9
East Carroll	64	63	59	50	1	64
East Feliciana	28	19	13	61	60	30
Evangeline	43	28	50	43	19	51
Franklin	58	55	55	38	25	57
Grant	24	50	44	55	1	19
Iberia	30	8	54	42	42	16
Iberville	46	42	23	5	9	37
Jackson	15	34	42	30	62	32
Jefferson	25	30	39	36	8	4
Jefferson Davis	7	6	8	7	21	28
Lafayette	13	2	4	46	33	11
Lafourche	18	3	24	54	25	41
LaSalle	8	47	27	44	58	8
Lincoln	20	1	18	47	58	19
Livingston	3	25	17	64	47	3
Madison	62	54	58	18	43	63
Morehouse	59	62	62	45	61	46
Natchitoches	48	38	52	35	47	53
Orleans	63	19	43	21	39	27
Ouachita	38	23	34	60	36	18
Plaquemines	21	16	14	11	14	31
Pointe Coupee	40	44	31	22	28	55
Rapides	36	25	38	15	35	22
Red River	47	53	25	17	1	58
Richland	60	58	60	51	31	60
Sabine	29	27	55	31	36	52
St. Bernard	5	8	6	27	11	2
St. Charles	4	14	2	2	24	6
St. Helena	52	33	47	32	55	48
St. James	35	52	20	3	56	35
St. John	15	37	14	10	17	17
St. Landry	55	41	31	49	23	59
St. Martin	26	19	19	53	46	21
St. Mary	42	40	47	34	34	28
St. Tammany	1	3	1	23	15	1
Tangipahoa	50	36	46	56	11	40
Tensas	61	56	63	8	30	61
Terrebonne	17	5	20	62	28	23
Union	22	16	45	59	50	25
Vermillion	23	11	27	40	40	38
Vernon	12	29	10	9	45	10
Washington	55	34	61	14	52	44
Webster	34	51	49	58	19	26
West Baton Rouge	19	10	11	29	16	14
West Carroll	39	60	36	52	1	56
West Feliciana	32	30	11	6	64	45
Winn	33	38	57	12	11	50

Acadia

Children in Acadia Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			57,266
Under 20 (1994)	14,746	4,525	19,318
Under 5 (1994)	3,585	1,173	4,769
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			27.7
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			32.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$33,300
% Unemployed			6.6
Number Unemployed			1,500
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,942
Medicaid			5,082
Food Stamps			4,246
WIC			906
Child Care Assistance			53
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			34
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	643	266	910
% Births to Teens	17.0	31.6	21.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.1	21.8	10.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	58.8	29.7	50.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	9.3	33.8	16.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			55.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	91	173	264
Crimes Against Property			73
Crimes Against Persons			164
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	170	121	294
Physical Abuse	53	25	79
Neglect	110	92	204
Sexual Abuse	6	3	9
Children in Foster Care	45	21	66
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	7,776	3,117	10,923
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,348
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,251
Special Education Services			1,451
Dropouts			46

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Allen Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			23,921
Under 20 (1994)	5,192	1,844	7,145
Under 5 (1994)	1,236	468	1,721
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			31.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			30.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,000
% Unemployed			9.6
Number Unemployed			830
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			505
Medicaid			1,466
Food Stamps			1,219
WIC			954
Child Care Assistance			16
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			2
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	241	69	317
% Births to Teens	21.2	27.5	22.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	9.1	15.9	10.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	67.9	48.5	63.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.1	14.5	6.3
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			91.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	57	53	110
Crimes Against Property			22
Crimes Against Persons			88
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	65	28	96
Physical Abuse	18	6	24
Neglect	38	21	62
Sexual Abuse	7	1	8
Children in Foster Care	20	44	64
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	3,250	1,062	4,356
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,188
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,541
Special Education Services			435
Dropouts			40

*** Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation**

Children in Ascension Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			68,106
Under 20 (1994)	15,455	6,466	22,037
Under 5 (1994)	3,626	1,665	5,327
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			18.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			22.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$42,600
% Unemployed			6.4
Number Unemployed			2,000
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,851
Medicaid			4,124
Food Stamps			3,157
WIC			1,485
Child Care Assistance			57
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			39
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	801	304	1,110
% Births to Teens	12.7	23.7	15.7
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.1	11.5	9.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.5	61.3	79.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	8.7	6.6	8.1
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			71.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	101	98	202
Crimes Against Property			52
Crimes Against Persons			150
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	60	71	135
Physical Abuse	18	6	24
Neglect	36	62	102
Sexual Abuse	6	3	9
Children in Foster Care	21	27	49
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	9,604	4,357	14,133
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,549
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,443
Special Education Services			1,925
Dropouts			86

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Assumption Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			22,414
Under 20 (1994)	4,579	3,051	7,693
Under 5 (1994)	1,074	717	1,803
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			26.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			31.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$28,800
% Unemployed			10.1
Number Unemployed			910
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			786
Medicaid			1,795
Food Stamps			1,599
WIC			848
Child Care Assistance			14
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			9
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	178	142	321
% Births to Teens	10.7	31.0	19.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.6	17.6	10.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	77.4	72.9	75.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0.0	7.0	3.1
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			81.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	8	13	24
Crimes Against Property			8
Crimes Against Persons			16
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	6	30	37
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,690	2,261	4,980
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,027
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,340
Special Education Services			587
Dropouts			19

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

Avoyelles

Children in Avoyelles Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			40,801
Under 20 (1994)	7,987	4,389	12,431
Under 5 (1994)	1,803	1,157	2,977
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			34.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			39.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$23,000
% Unemployed			11.1
Number Unemployed			1,760
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,397
Medicaid			3,753
Food Stamps			3,266
WIC			1,628
Child Care Assistance			28
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			10
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	391	196	591
% Births to Teens	15.9	30.1	20.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	9.0	13.8	10.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	75.2	42.8	64.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	7.7	20.4	11.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			79.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	56	87	143
Crimes Against Property			42
Crimes Against Persons			86
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	89	39	128
Physical Abuse	28	10	38
Neglect	42	20	62
Sexual Abuse	14	6	20
Children in Foster Care	21	28	51
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	4,439	2,909	7,396
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,842
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,624
Special Education Services			711
Dropouts			61

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Beauregard Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			31,342
Under 20 (1994)	7,998	1,727	9,814
Under 5 (1994)	1,954	414	2,381
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			18.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			22.2
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$33,600
% Unemployed			8.0
Number Unemployed			990
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			570
Medicaid			1,668
Food Stamps			1,269
WIC			862
Child Care Assistance			25
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			7
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	400	73	475
% Births to Teens	15.2	30.1	17.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.0	12.3	7.2
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	65.9	30.6	60.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	10.0	41.1	14.7
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			85.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	91	34	127
Crimes Against Property			17
Crimes Against Persons			106
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	151	43	201
Physical Abuse	20	7	28
Neglect	87	36	129
Sexual Abuse	21		21
Children in Foster Care	22	5	27
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	5,099	1,119	6,289
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,379
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,018
Special Education Services			754
Dropouts			27

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Louisiana kids count

Beauregard

Children in Bienville Parish

Bienville

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			15,685
Under 20 (1994)	2,324	2,497	4,826
Under 5 (1994)	532	658	1,191
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			27.6
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			37.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$28,500
% Unemployed			21.1
Number Unemployed			1,330
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			671
Medicaid			1,486
Food Stamps			1,451
WIC			535
Child Care Assistance			14
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			13
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	103	103	209
% Births to Teens	13.6	25.2	19.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	10.7	14.6	12.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	74.3	48.5	61.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	9.7	9.7	9.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			95.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	15	53	68
Crimes Against Property			9
Crimes Against Persons			35
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			•
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	5	21	27
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,398	1,854	3,255
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,556
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,014
Special Education Services			334
Dropouts			6

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• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Bossier Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			92,119
Under 20 (1994)	19,983	7,773	28,202
Under 5 (1994)	5,130	2,099	7,341
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			16.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			20.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$36,000
% Unemployed			7.1
Number Unemployed			3,200
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,519
Medicaid			4,305
Food Stamps			3,860
WIC			1,771
Child Care Assistance			137
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			50
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	995	339	1,370
% Births to Teens	12.1	27.4	15.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.5	13.9	8.3
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.1	60.3	79.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	3.0	8.8	4.4
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			86.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	100	101	206
Crimes Against Property			40
Crimes Against Persons			88
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	163	151	326
Physical Abuse	49	34	85
Neglect	98	104	212
Sexual Abuse	12	9	21
Children in Foster Care	23	81	105
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	12,686	5,437	18,617
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,472
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,430
Special Education Services			1,562
Dropouts			129

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana
kids
count

Caddo

Children in Caddo Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			246,363
Under 20 (1994)	35,039	40,405	75,990
Under 5 (1994)	8,613	10,320	19,065
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			25.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			35.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$36,000
% Unemployed			6.8
Number Unemployed			8,200
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			9,102
Medicaid			18,759
Food Stamps			19,206
WIC			4,834
Child Care Assistance			704
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			310
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,660	1,871	3,581
% Births to Teens	11.4	28.1	20.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.5	13.7	10.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.2	57.3	71.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.6	14.4	10.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			84.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	93	365	458
Crimes Against Property			181
Crimes Against Persons			270
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	248	766	1020
Physical Abuse	70	135	206
Neglect	127	586	717
Sexual Abuse	18	22	40
Children in Foster Care	69	211	287
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	21,833	34,223	56,646
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,434
Teacher Salary (average)			$27,929
Special Education Services			5,439
Dropouts			853

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Calcasieu Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			177,910
Under 20 (1994)	38,400	15,991	54,750
Under 5 (1994)	9,243	3,941	13,274
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			19.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			24.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,400
% Unemployed			7.0
Number Unemployed			6,200
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			3,353
Medicaid			9,624
Food Stamps			7,683
WIC			3,648
Child Care Assistance			336
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			86
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,859	759	2,637
% Births to Teens	15.6	28.7	19.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.0	13.6	8.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	85.0	67.6	80.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.5	15.8	9.1
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			78.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	84	150	236
Crimes Against Property			78
Crimes Against Persons			158
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	370	273	657
Physical Abuse	110	52	163
Neglect	192	160	364
Sexual Abuse	23	22	46
Children in Foster Care	53	45	99
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	23,000	9,998	33,222
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,165
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,419
Special Education Services			4,037
Dropouts			246

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana
kids
count

Caldwell

Children in Caldwell Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			10,158
Under 20 (1994)	2,461	723	3,191
Under 5 (1994)	567	163	732
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			24.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			29.2
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$24,600
% Unemployed			13.6
Number Unemployed			630
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			292
Medicaid			711
Food Stamps			592
WIC			715
Child Care Assistance			10
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			6
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	91	28	119
% Births to Teens	18.7	32.1	21.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	3.3	7.1	4.2
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.4	75.0	80.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			91.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	16	13	29
Crimes Against Property			3
Crimes Against Persons			17
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			•
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	6	2	8
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,569	449	2,058
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,483
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,039
Special Education Services			185
Dropouts			67

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Cameron Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			9,057
Under 20 (1994)	2,693	190	2,900
Under 5 (1994)	675	53	734
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			16.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			16.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$36,300
% Unemployed			6.4
Number Unemployed			220
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			69
Medicaid			338
Food Stamps			169
WIC			273
Child Care Assistance			0
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			0
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	105	7	114
% Births to Teens	16.2	0	14.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.6	28.6	8.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	87.6	100.0	88.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	19.0	0	17.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			83.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	22	2	25
Crimes Against Property			7
Crimes Against Persons			17
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	4	0	4
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,845	102	1,972
Per Pupil Expenditures			$6,099
Teacher Salary (average)			$30,283
Special Education Services			274
Dropouts			7

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Louisiana kids count

Cameron

Louisiana kids count

Catahoula

Children in Catahoula Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			10,783
Under 20 (1994)	2,424	1,222	3,652
Under 5 (1994)	558	302	861
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			30.8
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			36.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$24,000
% Unemployed			14.2
Number Unemployed			700
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			414
Medicaid			970
Food Stamps			848
WIC			515
Child Care Assistance			4
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			3
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	106	47	153
% Births to Teens	19.8	36.2	24.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	3.8	6.4	4.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	79.2	63.0	74.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			86.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	15	11	26
Crimes Against Property			4
Crimes Against Persons			22
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	87	29	118
Physical Abuse	2	2	4
Neglect	78	27	107
Sexual Abuse	2	0	2
Children in Foster Care	10	6	17
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,452	821	2,282
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,624
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,207
Special Education Services			200
Dropouts			23

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Claiborne Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			17,164
Under 20 (1994)	2,160	2,612	4,784
Under 5 (1994)	487	674	1,164
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			29.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			35.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,500
% Unemployed			11.1
Number Unemployed			650
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			652
Medicaid			1,350
Food Stamps			1,454
WIC			548
Child Care Assistance			48
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			8
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	83	110	194
% Births to Teens	14.5	21.8	18.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.4	13.6	11.3
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	79.3	58.2	67.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	27.3	15.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			94.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	9	34	43
Crimes Against Property			8
Crimes Against Persons			22
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	0	14	14
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,068	1,834	2,910
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,218
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,806
Special Education Services			361
Dropouts			8

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Children in Concordia Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			20,770
Under 20 (1994)	3,699	3,111	6,827
Under 5 (1994)	842	715	1,562
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			29.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			36.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,200
% Unemployed			16.6
Number Unemployed			1,430
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,005
Medicaid			2,132
Food Stamps			1,853
WIC			895
Child Care Assistance			39
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			19
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	168	153	321
% Births to Teens	23.2	43.8	33.0
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.5	15.0	10.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.0	58.3	72.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	26.1	12.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			67.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	22	38	60
Crimes Against Property			13
Crimes Against Persons			47
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	29	40	71
Physical Abuse	5	4	9
Neglect	16	32	50
Sexual Abuse	3	2	5
Children in Foster Care	5	27	32
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,121	2,259	4,384
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,262
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,414
Special Education Services			332
Dropouts			30

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in DeSoto Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			25,379
Under 20 (1994)	3,775	4,227	8,023
Under 5 (1994)	895	1,070	1,968
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			29.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			38.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,400
% Unemployed			10.2
Number Unemployed			1,100
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,043
Medicaid			1,918
Food Stamps			2,351
WIC			1,030
Child Care Assistance			37
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			23
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	160	200	361
% Births to Teens	14.4	32.5	24.4
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.3	13.0	10.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.5	55.1	68.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	25.0	20.0	22.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			95.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	33	67	101
Crimes Against Property			16
Crimes Against Persons			79
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	26	47	74
Physical Abuse	7	12	19
Neglect	17	29	47
Sexual Abuse	2	6	8
Children in Foster Care	14	35	50
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,430	3,039	5,519
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,588
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,416
Special Education Services			544
Dropouts			19

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

DeSoto

Children in East Baton Rouge Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			399,992
Under 20 (1994)	65,929	55,416	123,656
Under 5 (1994)	15,803	13,945	30,289
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			19.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			22.2
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$42,600
% Unemployed			5.0
Number Unemployed			10,400
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			13,131
Medicaid			24,083
Food Stamps			22,371
WIC			6,906
Child Care Assistance			1,057
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			408
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	3,143	2,879	6,183
% Births to Teens	7.0	23.9	14.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.4	15.5	10.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	89.8	66.1	78.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.8	19.1	11.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			73.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	42	281	324
Crimes Against Property			116
Crimes Against Persons			182
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	136	512	661
Physical Abuse	40	76	118
Neglect	76	400	485
Sexual Abuse	19	29	49
Children in Foster Care	88	316	413
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	17,346	25,278	43,723
Per Pupil Expenditures			$5,370
Teacher Salary (average)			$28,574
Special Education Services			6,485
Dropouts			453

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in East Carroll Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			9,260
Under 20 (1994)	818	2,819	3,649
Under 5 (1994)	196	713	914
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			52.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			60.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$15,200
% Unemployed			18.0
Number Unemployed			540
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,154
Medicaid			1,819
Food Stamps			1,884
WIC			638
Child Care Assistance			33
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			6
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	38	148	186
% Births to Teens	10.5	33.1	28.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	2.6	10.1	8.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	76.3	50.7	55.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			58.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	8	61	69
Crimes Against Property			10
Crimes Against Persons			49
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	45	86	133
Physical Abuse	10	6	16
Neglect	35	79	116
Sexual Abuse	0	1	1
Children in Foster Care	0	30	30
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	217	1,978	2,199
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,015
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,531
Special Education Services			153
Dropouts			48

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

East Feliciana

Children in East Feliciana Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			20,154
Under 20 (1994)	2,957	3,558	6,528
Under 5 (1994)	707	911	1,622
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			26.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			29.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$29,400
% Unemployed			6.9
Number Unemployed			520
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			670
Medicaid			1,525
Food Stamps			1,320
WIC			606
Child Care Assistance			6
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			7
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	156	110	267
% Births to Teens	10.3	25.5	16.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.3	11.8	9.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.3	46.8	67.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.4	36.4	18.7
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			66.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	25	73	98
Crimes Against Property			36
Crimes Against Persons			62
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	69	78	147
Physical Abuse	16	11	27
Neglect	28	61	89
Sexual Abuse	8	2	10
Children in Foster Care	12	37	51
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,020	2,588	3,608
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,662
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,045
Special Education Services			287
Dropouts			71

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Evangeline Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			34,422
Under 20 (1994)	7,479	3,892	11,401
Under 5 (1994)	1,766	1,094	2,866
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			31.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			34.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$23,100
% Unemployed			7.4
Number Unemployed			840
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,861
Medicaid			4,231
Food Stamps			3,325
WIC			1,562
Child Care Assistance			22
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			17
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	337	222	559
% Births to Teens	20.5	28.8	23.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.5	19.8	11.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	70.4	51.1	62.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	5.9	9.0	7.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			87.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	72	118	191
Crimes Against Property			69
Crimes Against Persons			122
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	69	64	138
Physical Abuse	17	10	28
Neglect	41	46	91
Sexual Abuse	7	5	12
Children in Foster Care	31	14	45
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	4,421	2,765	7,197
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,133
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,533
Special Education Services			15
Dropouts			15

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Franklin Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			22,014
Under 20 (1994)	4,187	3,161	7,375
Under 5 (1994)	924	749	1,685
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			33.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			40.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$23,100
% Unemployed			13.0
Number Unemployed			1,280
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			969
Medicaid			2,255
Food Stamps			1,928
WIC			893
Child Care Assistance			49
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			12
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	182	159	342
% Births to Teens	19.8	31.4	25.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.5	13.2	9.1
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	84.0	64.3	74.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	5.5	12.6	8.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			77.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	15	51	66
Crimes Against Property			16
Crimes Against Persons			29
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	43	38	82
Physical Abuse	3	5	9
Neglect	36	30	66
Sexual Abuse	3	3	6
Children in Foster Care	6	25	32
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,391	2,035	4,426
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,215
Teacher Salary (average)			$21,959
Special Education Services			8
Dropouts			113

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Grant Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			18,334
Under 20 (1994)	4,605	1,004	5,660
Under 5 (1994)	1,102	261	1,369
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			23.7
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			28.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,100
% Unemployed			11.2
Number Unemployed			750
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			466
Medicaid			1,265
Food Stamps			1,271
WIC			828
Child Care Assistance			23
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			4
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	239	43	284
% Births to Teens	22.2	25.6	22.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.9	7.0	6.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	78.6	66.7	77.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			76.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	42	16	58
Crimes Against Property			9
Crimes Against Persons			49
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	94	30	124
Physical Abuse	17	4	21
Neglect	63	26	89
Sexual Abuse	11	0	11
Children in Foster Care	7	10	17
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	3,125	621	3,765
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,886
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,234
Special Education Services			364
Dropouts			69

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Grant

Children in Iberia Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			71,292
Under 20 (1994)	14,858	8,988	24,421
Under 5 (1994)	3,687	2,331	6,176
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			24.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			29.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$32,900
% Unemployed			6.1
Number Unemployed			1,880
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			2,627
Medicaid			6,011
Food Stamps			5,441
WIC			1,211
Child Care Assistance			183
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			58
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	629	541	1,212
% Births to Teens	17.8	33.8	25.0
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.6	12.6	9.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	81.2	50.4	66.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	7.9	16.6	11.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			66.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	107	186	299
Crimes Against Property			65
Crimes Against Persons			231
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	99	116	222
Physical Abuse	28	21	50
Neglect	55	89	150
Sexual Abuse	14	4	18
Children in Foster Care	22	37	60
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	9,023	6,007	15,481
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,159
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,908
Special Education Services			2,651
Dropouts			116

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Iberville Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			30,965
Under 20 (1994)	4,443	5,527	9,995
Under 5 (1994)	1,061	1,492	2,557
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			28.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			35.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$32,300
% Unemployed			9.1
Number Unemployed			1,110
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,420
Medicaid			2,932
Food Stamps			2,672
WIC			740
Child Care Assistance			77
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			26
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	195	262	459
% Births to Teens	12.3	23.7	18.7
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.6	13.0	9.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	91.2	63.8	75.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	7.6	4.4
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	12	63	75
Crimes Against Property			25
Crimes Against Persons			50
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	37	69	106
Physical Abuse	6	8	14
Neglect	24	58	82
Sexual Abuse	5	0	5
Children in Foster Care	1	47	48
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration ..	1,560	3,926	5,506
Per Pupil Expenditures			$5,345
Teacher Salary (average)			$30,844
Special Education Services			571
Dropouts			60

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Jackson Parish

Jackson

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			15,543
Under 20 (1994)	3,023	1,722	4,759
Under 5 (1994)	661	359	1,023
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			21.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			24.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,900
% Unemployed			8.3
Number Unemployed			560
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			439
Medicaid			1,094
Food Stamps			924
WIC			679
Child Care Assistance			12
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			4
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	129	60	189
% Births to Teens	20.2	26.7	22.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	2.3	21.7	8.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	65.9	39.7	57.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	23.3	16.7	21.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			82.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	23	36	59
Crimes Against Property			11
Crimes Against Persons			22
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			•
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	6	4	11
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,018	1,208	3,226
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,316
Teacher Salary (average)			$20,981
Special Education Services			256
Dropouts			21

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Children in Jefferson Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			455,741
Under 20 (1994)	92,278	34,515	132,042
Under 5 (1994)	22,366	8,822	32,525
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			16.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			21.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			4.9
Number Unemployed			11,300
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			11,903
Medicaid			25,896
Food Stamps			20,478
WIC			6,148
Child Care Assistance			506
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			289
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	4,314	1,903	6,572
% Births to Teens	11.4	27.3	15.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.0	13.0	8.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	88.5	67.3	81.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.9	15.8	7.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			67.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	323	422	795
Crimes Against Property			283
Crimes Against Persons			512
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	604	643	1302
Physical Abuse	191	188	400
Neglect	348	408	788
Sexual Abuse	51	38	91
Children in Foster Care	112	310	434
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	27,025	21,537	54,509
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,870
Teacher Salary (average)			$28,651
Special Education Services			7,199
Dropouts			688

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

Jefferson Davis

Children in Jefferson Davis Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			31,416
Under 20 (1994)	7,795	2,527	10,371
Under 5 (1994)	1,815	635	2,464
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			25.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			28.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,800
% Unemployed			8.0
Number Unemployed			930
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			595
Medicaid			2,376
Food Stamps			1,633
WIC			1,211
Child Care Assistance			11
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			6
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	402	120	524
% Births to Teens	18.2	34.2	21.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.0	19.2	8.2
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	68.9	41.5	62.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	2.5	8.3	3.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			82.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	40	45	85
Crimes Against Property			20
Crimes Against Persons			43
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	101	76	182
Physical Abuse	34	17	51
Neglect	60	59	124
Sexual Abuse	7	0	7
Children in Foster Care	16	9	26
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	5,058	1,703	6,851
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,239
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,024
Special Education Services			842
Dropouts			35

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Lafayette Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			180,222
Under 20 (1994)	39,080	16,747	56,516
Under 5 (1994)	10,272	4,316	14,766
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			18.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			23.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$33,300
% Unemployed			4.5
Number Unemployed			4,100
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			3,217
Medicaid			9,558
Food Stamps			7.579
WIC			1,838
Child Care Assistance			456
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			186
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,900	880	2,819
% Births to Teens	10.2	25.5	14.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.2	15.3	9.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	81.4	53.3	72.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.2	22.7	9.9
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			63.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	248	449	699
Crimes Against Property			211
Crimes Against Persons			487
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	179	204	383
Physical Abuse			
Neglect	179	204	
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	51	72	126
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	17,041	8,428	25,893
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,059
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,001
Special Education Services			3,271
Dropouts			68

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Lafourche Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			87,852
Under 20 (1994)	22,005	5,069	28,384
Under 5 (1994)	5,310	1,386	6,968
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			21.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			26.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$32,000
% Unemployed			4.6
Number Unemployed			1,800
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			2,482
Medicaid			5,841
Food Stamps			4,795
WIC			2,088
Child Care Assistance			106
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			37
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	944	267	1,243
% Births to Teens	15.4	31.5	18.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.6	10.1	7.2
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	83.4	85.0	83.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	8.5	11.2	8.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			78.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	174	252	434
Crimes Against Property			165
Crimes Against Persons			269
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	138	145	286
Physical Abuse	25	27	53
Neglect	96	109	207
Sexual Abuse	17	4	21
Children in Foster Care	27	42	72
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	12,148	3,392	16,360
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,922
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,082
Special Education Services			2,572
Dropouts			159

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in LaSalle Parish

Louisiana kids count

LaSalle

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			13,796
Under 20 (1994)	3,443	528	4,030
Under 5 (1994)	732	138	880
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			18.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			21.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$29,900
% Unemployed			10.4
Number Unemployed			620
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			208
Medicaid			694
Food Stamps			536
WIC			499
Child Care Assistance			2
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			3
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	151	16	167
% Births to Teens	16.6	43.8	19.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.9	6.3	7.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	70.0	25.0	65.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	19.9	0	18.0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			89.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	19	16	35
Crimes Against Property			8
Crimes Against Persons			27
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			•
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	25	1	26
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,493	328	2,865
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,069
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,257
Special Education Services			220
Dropouts			15

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Children in Lincoln Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			42,935
Under 20 (1994)	7,383	6,980	14,478
Under 5 (1994)	1,395	1,247	2,672
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			21.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			27.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$35,300
% Unemployed			4.0
Number Unemployed			740
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,245
Medicaid			2,628
Food Stamps			2,604
WIC			670
Child Care Assistance			61
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			35
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	239	253	500
% Births to Teens	10.0	26.1	18.0
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.8	12.6	10.8
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	62.2	35.2	48.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	12.6	23.7	18.0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			82.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	75	200	277
Crimes Against Property			65
Crimes Against Persons			212
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	32	72	105
Physical Abuse	10	14	24
Neglect	21	57	78
Sexual Abuse	1	0	2
Children in Foster Care	24	40	65
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	3,424	2,531	6,021
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,035
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,401
Special Education Services			530
Dropouts			293

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Livingston Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			82,152
Under 20 (1994)	24,269	1,856	26,214
Under 5 (1994)	5,655	446	6,121
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			15.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			16.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$42,600
% Unemployed			7.2
Number Unemployed			2,800
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			835
Medicaid			3,813
Food Stamps			2,661
WIC			1,826
Child Care Assistance			48
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			28
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,020	93	1,116
% Births to Teens	16.6	29.0	17.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.0	14.0	8.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.3	50.5	79.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	11.8	21.5	12.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			89.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	175	41	216
Crimes Against Property			49
Crimes Against Persons			160
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	247	26	274
Physical Abuse	72	3	76
Neglect	129	20	149
Sexual Abuse	24	2	26
Children in Foster Care	34	16	52
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	15,710	1,692	17,464
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,295
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,275
Special Education Services			1,528
Dropouts			55

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Livingston

Children in Madison Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			13,456
Under 20 (1994)	1,299	3,326	4,632
Under 5 (1994)	268	805	1,075
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			39.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			48.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$21,000
% Unemployed			12.4
Number Unemployed			680
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			978
Medicaid			1,769
Food Stamps			1,695
WIC			832
Child Care Assistance			5
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			1
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	74	183	257
% Births to Teens	24.3	30.1	28.4
% Low Birthweight Babies	2.7	13.7	10.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	67.6	52.5	56.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	16.4	11.7
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			85.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	11	74	85
Crimes Against Property			27
Crimes Against Persons			44
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	20	42	64
Physical Abuse	3	4	8
Neglect	15	37	53
Sexual Abuse	2	1	3
Children in Foster Care	3	36	39
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	541	2,349	2,912
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,575
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,304
Special Education Services			295
Dropouts			56

*Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Morehouse Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			31,899
Under 20 (1994)	4,897	5,718	10,640
Under 5 (1994)	1,131	1,326	2,461
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			31.7
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			40.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,400
% Unemployed			17.0
Number Unemployed			2,220
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,349
Medicaid			2,993
Food Stamps			2,934
WIC			1,085
Child Care Assistance			171
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			34
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	220	287	509
% Births to Teens	24.5	36.2	31.0
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.0	10.5	8.1
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	64.5	38.5	50.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	18.2	20.9	19.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			87.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	35	167	205
Crimes Against Property			43
Crimes Against Persons			122
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	31	59	90
Physical Abuse	7	10	17
Neglect	21	45	66
Sexual Abuse	3	2	5
Children in Foster Care	9	24	33
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,183	4,014	6,203
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,061
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,066
Special Education Services			724
Dropouts			139

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Natchitoches Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			37,455
Under 20 (1994)	6,745	6,065	12,965
Under 5 (1994)	1,295	1,531	2,843
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty		•	29.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			36.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$25,800
% Unemployed			8.8
Number Unemployed			1,520
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,498
Medicaid			2,951
Food Stamps			3,235
WIC			1,361
Child Care Assistance			112
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			15
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	266	286	559
% Births to Teens	16.9	31.8	24.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	3.8	12.9	8.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.3	65.7	73.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	24.5	12.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			88.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	25	194	219
Crimes Against Property			82
Crimes Against Persons			130
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	77	186	270
Physical Abuse	18	29	50
Neglect	46	145	195
Sexual Abuse	7	2	9
Children in Foster Care	26	65	94
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	3,805	4,598	8,505
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,240
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,175
Special Education Services			840
Dropouts			87

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• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Orleans Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			480,260
Under 20 (1994)	29,722	113,394	148,028
Under 5 (1994)	7,507	28,831	37,875
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			38.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			57.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			6.9
Number Unemployed			13,900
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			41,895
Medicaid			61,668
Food Stamps			60,894
WIC			15,807
Child Care Assistance			1,238
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			469
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,448	6,389	8,076
% Births to Teens	4.3	27.0	22.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.2	13.9	12.1
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.1	61.1	65.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.2	12.5	11.0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			77.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	107	3,251	3,417
Crimes Against Property			1,246
Crimes Against Persons			2,151
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	120	1920	2077
Physical Abuse	25	382	415
Neglect	81	1385.	1494
Sexual Abuse	3	77	81
Children in Foster Care	165	1,089	1,279
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	5,365	77,618	86,735
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,502
Teacher Salary (average)			$31,774
Special Education Services			7,315
Dropouts			1,994

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

Ouachita

Children in Ouachita Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			146,768
Under 20 (1994)	27,037	20,449	47,844
Under 5 (1994)	6,231	5,332	11,646
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			24.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			31.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$33,700
% Unemployed			7.1
Number Unemployed			4,900
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			5,567
Medicaid			10,742
Food Stamps			11,178
WIC			3,255
Child Care Assistance			489
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			136
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,187	973	2,176
% Births to Teens	13.4	29.0	20.4
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.5	14.3	8.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	89.1	64.8	78.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	5.1	17.5	10.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			76.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	120	391	512
Crimes Against Property			148
Crimes Against Persons			362
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	310	486	804
Physical Abuse	61	71	132
Neglect	183	382	570
Sexual Abuse	44	16	63
Children in Foster Care	37	160	207
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	15,619	4.729	20,549
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,680
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,947
Special Education Services			1,556
Dropouts			285

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

1996 Kids Count Data book on Louisiana's Children

Children in Plaquemines Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			25,719
Under 20 (1994)	5,642	2,462	8,566
Under 5 (1994)	1,389	601	2,107
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			22.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			27.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			6.7
Number Unemployed			700
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,041
Medicaid			1,900
Food Stamps			1,704
WIC			667
Child Care Assistance			8
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			7
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	260	118	402
% Births to Teens	14.2	24.6	17.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.8	11.9	7.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.4	59.8	74.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	8.5	5.0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			45.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	11	12	29
Crimes Against Property			8
Crimes Against Persons			21
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	105	66	175
Physical Abuse	19	8	27
Neglect	81	52	136
Sexual Abuse	3	6	9
Children in Foster Care	10	11	21
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,748	1,466	4,422
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,732
Teacher Salary (average)			$28,788
Special Education Services			478
Dropouts			42

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Louisiana kids count

Pointe Coupee

Children in Pointe Coupee Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			23,128
Under 20 (1994)	3,726	3,711	7,453
Under 5 (1994)	859	878	1,737
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			26.3
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			32.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,200
% Unemployed			9.7
Number Unemployed			880
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			895
Medicaid			1,970
Food Stamps			1,573
WIC			911
Child Care Assistance			15
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			7
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	160	164	325
% Births to Teens	11.2	28.0	19.7
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.4	18.9	11.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	85.6	67.3	76.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.3	12.2	9.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	23	61	84
Crimes Against Property			34
Crimes Against Persons			50
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	34	97	131
Physical Abuse	9	9	18
Neglect	24	85	109
Sexual Abuse	0	2	2
Children in Foster Care	10	10	20
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,333	2,568	3,915
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,492
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,408
Special Education Services			567
Dropouts			13

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Rapides Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			127,788
Under 20 (1994)	24,731	14,330	39,598
Under 5 (1994)	6,026	3,435	9,618
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			24.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			31.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$33,000
% Unemployed			7.2
Number Unemployed			4,300
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			4,071
Medicaid			9,016
Food Stamps			8.996
WIC			2,897
Child Care Assistance			282
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			78
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,123	704	1,862
% Births to Teens	16.0	30.5	21.4
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.6	13.1	8.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	81.2	53.3	70.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	8.0	14.2	10.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			83.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	49	123	174
Crimes Against Property			56
Crimes Against Persons			116
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	291	378	681
Physical Abuse	73	53	128
Neglect	185	298	492
Sexual Abuse	28	24	53
Children in Foster Care	72	196	270
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	7,030	4,868	12,147
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,596
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,781
Special Education Services			2,820
Dropouts			64

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

Children in Red River Parish

Red River

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			9,766
Under 20 (1994)	1,540	1,538	3,083
Under 5 (1994)	380	397	779
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			29.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			36.2
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$25,800
% Unemployed			12.2
Number Unemployed			360
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			363
Medicaid			830
Food Stamps			901
WIC			709
Child Care Assistance			4
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			[illegible]
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	76	66	143
% Births to Teens	14.5	24.2	18.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	10.5	19.7	14.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	85.5	60.9	74.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	21	34	55
Crimes Against Property			18
Crimes Against Persons			37
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			•
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	3	12	15
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	892	1,173	2,074
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,585
Teacher Salary (average)			$21,683
Special Education Services			189
Dropouts			1

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• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Richland Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			20,454
Under 20 (1994)	3,477	3,308	6,791
Under 5 (1994)	743	804	1,548
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			32.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			41.5
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$24,600
% Unemployed			14.1
Number Unemployed			1,150
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,166
Medicaid			2,200
Food Stamps			2,041
WIC			825
Child Care Assistance			45
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			24
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	155	159	314
% Births to Teens	23.2	36.5	29.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.7	17.6	12.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	80.4	57.0	68.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	6.5	12.6	9.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			81.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	35	97	132
Crimes Against Property			29
Crimes Against Persons			95
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	20	20	40
Physical Abuse	6	1	7
Neglect	6	16	22
Sexual Abuse	7	3	10
Children in Foster Care	2	20	22
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,083	2,411	4,510
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,982
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,605
Special Education Services			501
Dropouts			87

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Sabine Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			23,562
Under 20 (1994)	4,942	1,865	7,048
Under 5 (1994)	1,199	481	1,721
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			24.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			29.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,100
% Unemployed			7.3
Number Unemployed			680
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			601
Medicaid			1,444
Food Stamps			1,264
WIC			755
Child Care Assistance			15
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			33
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	192	77	283
% Births to Teens	21.4	36.4	25.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.7	11.7	7.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	80.6	48.0	72.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	15.6	0	10.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			91.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	45	38	83
Crimes Against Property			23
Crimes Against Persons			60
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	75	57	132
Physical Abuse	17	11	28
Neglect	47	45	92
Sexual Abuse	8	1	9
Children in Foster Care	30	4	35
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,534	1,229	4,530
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,270
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,325
Special Education Services			496
Dropouts			65

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in St. Bernard Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			67,447
Under 20 (1994)	17,926	1,259	19,578
Under 5 (1994)	4,339	330	4,772
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			15.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			19.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			6.1
Number Unemployed			1,900
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,256
Medicaid			3,449
Food Stamps			2,569
WIC			1,322
Child Care Assistance			120
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			45
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	785	76	880
% Births to Teens	15.3	19.7	15.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.2	22.4	7.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	88.9	67.6	86.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	3.8	13.2	4.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			69.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	60	23	85
Crimes Against Property			15
Crimes Against Persons			70
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	136	43	184
Physical Abuse	31	9	44
Neglect	82	33	116
Sexual Abuse	10	0	10
Children in Foster Care	33	14	49
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	7,751	883	9,128
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,380
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,017
Special Education Services			1,267
Dropouts			121

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Louisiana
kids
count

St. Bernard

St. Charles

Children in St. Charles Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			16,275
Under 20 (1994)	10,436	4,643	15,225
Under 5 (1994)	2,843	1,222	4,113
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			15.0
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			18.6
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			6.6
Number Unemployed			1,400
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			909
Medicaid			2,389
Food Stamps			1,978
WIC			815
Child Care Assistance			81
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			27
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	468	236	711
% Births to Teens	7.1	26.3	13.4
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.1	17.8	9.3
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	83.8	72.2	80.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.3	16.9	8.4
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			63.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	51	61	112
Crimes Against Property			41
Crimes Against Persons			71
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	12	32	44
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	6,289	3,140	9,628
Per Pupil Expenditures			$6,044
Teacher Salary (average)			$32,138
Special Education Services			1,035
Dropouts			61

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in St. Helena Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			9,672
Under 20 (1994)	1,305	2,021	3,333
Under 5 (1994)	341	505	846
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			30.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			37.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$25,400
% Unemployed			8.1
Number Unemployed			330
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			313
Medicaid			1,012
Food Stamps			995
WIC			668
Child Care Assistance			6
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			8
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	54	64	118
% Births to Teens	22.2	23.4	22.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.4	9.4	8.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	81.5	57.1	68.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	18.5	15.6	16.9
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			100.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	0	1	1
Crimes Against Property			1
Crimes Against Persons			0
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	30	0	30
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	263	1,677	1,940
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,263
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,216
Special Education Services			260
Dropouts			22

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

Children in St. James Parish

St. James

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			21,652
Under 20 (1994)	2,984	4,169	7,161
Under 5 (1994)	721	1,074	1,796
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			23.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			31.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$34,000
% Unemployed			11.8
Number Unemployed			1,100
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			894
Medicaid			1,788
Food Stamps			1,637
WIC			938
Child Care Assistance			52
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			7
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	147	201	349
% Births to Teens	8.8	25.9	18.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.4	14.4	10.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	72.4	60.2	65.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	13.6	19.9	17.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			87.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	3	30	33
Crimes Against Property			16
Crimes Against Persons			17
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	2	37	39
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,278	3,002	4,284
Per Pupil Expenditures			$5,490
Teacher Salary (average)			$30,300
Special Education Services			370
Dropouts			41

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in St. John

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			41,916
Under 20 (1994)	8,487	6,458	15,058
Under 5 (1994)	2,295	1,646	3,983
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			19.8
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			24.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			8.6
Number Unemployed			1,600
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,420
Medicaid			3,298
Food Stamps			2,553
WIC			926
Child Care Assistance			86
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			41
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	374	277	661
% Births to Teens	10.7	26.4	17.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	12.3	11.2	11.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	70.1	54.6	62.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	2.7	10.8	6.1
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			68.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	11	38	49
Crimes Against Property			31
Crimes Against Persons			18
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	73	142	215
Physical Abuse	25	30	55
Neglect	39	102	141
Sexual Abuse	8	8	16
Children in Foster Care	25	41	67
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,169	3,920	6,219
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,750
Teacher Salary (average)			$27,755
Special Education Services			1,155
Dropouts			10

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Louisiana kids count

St. Landry

Children in St. Landry Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			82,237
Under 20 (1994)	14,179	13,685	27,983
Under 5 (1994)	3,382	3,432	6,837
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			32.7
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			38.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$33,300
% Unemployed			9.0
Number Unemployed			2,900
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			4,605
Medicaid			8,861
Food Stamps			8,063
WIC			2,226
Child Care Assistance			121
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			30
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	670	673	1,347
% Births to Teens	14.3	25.3	19.7
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.9	14.3	11.1
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	73.8	49.8	62.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.5	11.9	8.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			66.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	128	305	433
Crimes Against Property			106
Crimes Against Persons			306
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	109	142	255
Physical Abuse	11	18	29
Neglect	87	113	204
Sexual Abuse	7	6	13
Children in Foster Care	44	103	153
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	8,274	9,546	17,897
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,016
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,460
Special Education Services			2,230
Dropouts			129

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Children in St. Martin Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			46,262
Under 20 (1994)	9,241	6,369	15,841
Under 5 (1994)	2,281	1,708	4,035
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			23.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			28.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$33,300
% Unemployed			6.9
Number Unemployed			1,400
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,324
Medicaid			3,447
Food Stamps			3,006
WIC			914
Child Care Assistance			90
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			31
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	431	290	728
% Births to Teens	15.8	22.4	18.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.4	14.1	10.7
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	80.4	54.9	70.2
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	9.3	17.2	12.4
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			74.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	106	134	248
Crimes Against Property			56
Crimes Against Persons			110
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	75	104	181
Physical Abuse	25	27	52
Neglect	39	64	105
Sexual Abuse	7	6	13
Children in Foster Care	24	46	70
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	4,748	4,089	8,971
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,924
Teacher Salary (average)			$24,404
Special Education Services			1,318
Dropouts			148

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in St. Mary Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			57,735
Under 20 (1994)	10,929	7,867	19,746
Under 5 (1994)	2,678	2,035	4,996
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			26.7
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			33.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$29,800
% Unemployed			8.9
Number Unemployed			2,060
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			2,355
Medicaid			5,049
Food Stamps			4,459
WIC			1,014
Child Care Assistance			100
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			39
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	488	290	800
% Births to Teens	19.1	30.0	22.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	5.9	11.7	8.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	83.6	65.3	76.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.1	20.7	10.0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			74.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	125	203	330
Crimes Against Property			75
Crimes Against Persons			253
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	90	73	164
Physical Abuse	21	18	40
Neglect	63	50	113
Sexual Abuse	5	3	8
Children in Foster Care	21	27	48
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	5,840	5,343	11,759
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,254
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,140
Special Education Services			1,523
Dropouts			76

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in St. Tammany Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			174,856
Under 20 (1994)	45,266	7,726	53,557
Under 5 (1994)	10,968	1,961	13,106
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			14.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			16.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$38,300
% Unemployed			4.6
Number Unemployed			3,700
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,707
Medicaid			6,347
Food Stamps			4,685
WIC			1,691
Child Care Assistance			89
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			57
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	2,107	346	2,488
% Births to Teens	9.3	36.4	13.1
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.3	10.4	6.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	90.9	66.8	87.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	2.8	20.2	5.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			84.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	303	147	462
Crimes Against Property			140
Crimes Against Persons			320
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	385	105	508
Physical Abuse	54	11	67
Neglect	280	79	373
Sexual Abuse	34	10	46
Children in Foster Care	143	56	202
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	25,408	4,545	30,319
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,487
Teacher Salary (average)			$28,267
Special Education Services			3,948
Dropouts			412

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Tangipahoa Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			94,364
Under 20 (1994)	18,881	11,723	30,779
Under 5 (1994)	4,156	2,840	7,043
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			29.5
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			36.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$29,200
% Unemployed			8.5
Number Unemployed			3,530
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			3,800
Medicaid			9,848
Food Stamps			8,149
WIC			3,326
Child Care Assistance			191
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			73
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	927	619	1,554
% Births to Teens	16.1	32.8	22.8
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.4	17.4	11.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	84.8	69.6	78.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	4.3	4.8	4.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			93.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	88	247	335
Crimes Against Property			131
Crimes Against Persons			186
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	75	77	155
Physical Abuse	21	12	34
Neglect	34	60	95
Sexual Abuse	10	5	16
Children in Foster Care	29	45	83
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	9,583	8,027	17,769
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,860
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,620
Special Education Services			2,267
Dropouts			254

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Tensas Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			6,805
Under 20 (1994)	829	1,527	2,362
Under 5 (1994)	192	363	557
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			40.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			47.1
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$19,000
% Unemployed			13.6
Number Unemployed			420
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			478
Medicaid			1,031
Food Stamps			863
WIC			356
Child Care Assistance			10
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			0
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	43	65	108
% Births to Teens	18.6	40.0	31.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.7	9.2	7.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	86.1	55.4	67.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	15.4	9.3
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	1	37	38
Crimes Against Property			7
Crimes Against Persons			28
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	1	9	10
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	257	1,231	1,488
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,845
Teacher Salary (average)			$20,977
Special Education Services			276
Dropouts			12

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Terrebonne Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			101,760
Under 20 (1994)	24,593	7,415	34,579
Under 5 (1994)	5,972	1,962	8,489
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			22.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			26.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$32,000
% Unemployed			4.7
Number Unemployed			2,100
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			2,520
Medicaid			7,424
Food Stamps			6,649
WIC			1,630
Child Care Assistance			122
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			36
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	1,053	352	1,520
% Births to Teens	17.0	20.5	18.6
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.2	12.5	8.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	76.7	75.8	75.9
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	10.4	5.7	9.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			61.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	103	141	258
Crimes Against Property			73
Crimes Against Persons			185
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	153	118	279
Physical Abuse	30	21	53
Neglect	100	89	193
Sexual Abuse	23	7	32
Children in Foster Care	123	78	206
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	13,601	5,003	20,492
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,604
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,051
Special Education Services			2,912
Dropouts			248

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Union Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			21,672
Under 20 (1994)	4,024	2,346	6,377
Under 5 (1994)	897	622	1,521
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			21.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			27.8
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$28,100
% Unemployed			6.7
Number Unemployed			730
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			433
Medicaid			1,213
Food Stamps			1,079
WIC			586
Child Care Assistance			9
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			2
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	201	98	299
% Births to Teens	15.9	36.7	22.7
% Low Birthweight Babies	7.5	13.3	9.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	76.1	45.4	66.1
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	10.0	20.4	13.4
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			84.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	33	38	71
Crimes Against Property			20
Crimes Against Persons			49
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	24	40	64
Physical Abuse	6	4	10
Neglect	17	34	51
Sexual Abuse	1	2	3
Children in Foster Care	9	13	22
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,305	1,560	3,902
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,694
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,544
Special Education Services			333
Dropouts			17

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Vermilion

Children in Vermilion Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			51,108
Under 20 (1994)	12,981	3,061	16,501
Under 5 (1994)	3,025	872	4,002
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			22.6
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			27.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$28,700
% Unemployed			6.4
Number Unemployed			1,440
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,294
Medicaid			3,714
Food Stamps			3,054
WIC			907
Child Care Assistance			58
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			17
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	538	163	717
% Births to Teens	18.2	23.9	19.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.5	11.7	7.9
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	82.1	58.8	77.1
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	9.3	18.4	11.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			71.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	71	70	144
Crimes Against Property			50
Crimes Against Persons			93
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	70	33	117
Physical Abuse	23	6	36
Neglect	36	27	70
Sexual Abuse	10	0	10
Children in Foster Care	22	15	37
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	7,930	2,079	10,325
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,172
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,631
*Special Education Services			1,475
*Dropouts			43

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Vernon Parish

Louisiana kids count

Vernon

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			52,989
Under 20 (1994)	13,738	4,852	19,368
Under 5 (1994)	3,988	1,662	5,947
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			19.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			22.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$28,200
% Unemployed			7.8
Number Unemployed			1,370
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			702
Medicaid			2,173
Food Stamps			1,791
WIC			2,113
Child Care Assistance			29
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			9
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	756	207	1,011
% Births to Teens	16.8	15.0	16.2
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.1	11.6	8.4
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	76.4	77.1	76.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	9.3	24.2	11.9
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			54.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	62	38	100
Crimes Against Property			26
Crimes Against Persons			73
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	253	111	385
Physical Abuse	50	22	78
Neglect	176	82	272
Sexual Abuse	18	1	20
Children in Foster Care	61	30	94
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	7,736	2,509	11,006
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,752
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,183
Special Education Services			1,233
Dropouts			7

• Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

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Children in Washington Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			43,349
Under 20 (1994)	7,993	5,173	13,206
Under 5 (1994)	1,725	1,214	2,949
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			31.1
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			38.9
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$26,600
% Unemployed			8.3
Number Unemployed			1,340
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,727
Medicaid			4,712
Food Stamps			3,578
WIC			1,946
Child Care Assistance			22
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			8
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	350	258	608
% Births to Teens	26.9	34.9	30.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	6.9	17.4	11.3
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	79.8	46.2	65.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	2.9	31.0	14.8
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			92.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	27	22	49
Crimes Against Property			17
Crimes Against Persons			31
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	87	61	148
Physical Abuse	9	3	12
Neglect	43	49	92
Sexual Abuse	17	2	19
Children in Foster Care	58	70	129
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	3,027	2,136	5,177
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,606
Teacher Salary (average)			$25,643
Special Education Services			652
Dropouts			55

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Webster Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			42,199
Under 20 (1994)	7,360	4,986	12,371
Under 5 (1994)	1,683	1,277	2,965
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			22.8
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			30.4
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$36,000
% Unemployed			11.6
Number Unemployed			2,200
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			1,085
Medicaid			2,822
Food Stamps			2,705
WIC			1,244
Child Care Assistance			59
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			25
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	297	248	552
% Births to Teens	20.2	26.2	23.0
% Low Birthweight Babies	8.1	13.3	10.5
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	83.3	60.1	72.6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	3.4	12.1	7.2
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	40	115	155
Crimes Against Property			35
Crimes Against Persons			64
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	79	157	241
Physical Abuse	26	23	49
Neglect	37	118	158
Sexual Abuse	10	6	18
Children in Foster Care	42	36	83
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	4,689	3,535	8,241
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,750
Teacher Salary (average)			$22,589
Special Education Services			811
Dropouts			109

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in West Baton Rouge Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			20,412
Under 20 (1994)	3,712	2,768	6,503
Under 5 (1994)	934	686	1,625
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			20.2
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			26.7
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			*$42,600
% Unemployed			6.3
Number Unemployed			600
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			609
Medicaid			1,484
Food Stamps			1,223
WIC			545
Child Care Assistance			66
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			26
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	188	149	337
% Births to Teens	11.2	22.8	16.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.3	12.8	8.0
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	89.8	66.0	79.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	5.3	6.7	5.9
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			96.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	24	52	76
Crimes Against Property			16
Crimes Against Persons			60
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	1	10	11
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,889	1,750	3,658
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,333
Teacher Salary (average)			$26,526
Special Education Services			316
Dropouts			48

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in West Carroll Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			12,170
Under 20 (1994)	2,841	853	3,704
Under 5 (1994)	596	244	843
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			27.4
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			32.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$24,800
% Unemployed			14.6
Number Unemployed			700
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			339
Medicaid			1,062
Food Stamps			765
WIC			580
Child Care Assistance			14
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			1
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	123	40	163
% Births to Teens	19.5	25.0	20.9
% Low Birthweight Babies	9.8	5.0	8.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	65.8	60.0	64.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	0	0	0
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			90.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	22	10	32
Crimes Against Property			4
Crimes Against Persons			27
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	1	3	4
Physical Abuse	0	0	0
Neglect	1	3	4
Sexual Abuse	0	0	0
Children in Foster Care	7	11	18
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,076	573	2,656
Per Pupil Expenditures			$3,937
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,253
Special Education Services			250
Dropouts			45

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* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in West Feliciana Parish

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			13,102
Under 20 (1994)	1,369	1,386	2,765
Under 5 (1994)	303	365	672
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			28.9
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			30.0
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$27,400
% Unemployed			8.0
Number Unemployed			320
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			216
Medicaid			641
Food Stamps			440
WIC			291
Child Care Assistance			2
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			0
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	50	42	92
% Births to Teens	6.0	28.6	16.3
% Low Birthweight Babies	4.0	11.9	7.6
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	92.0	56.1	75.8
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	20.0	47.6	32.6
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			91.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	24	21	45
Crimes Against Property			13
Crimes Against Persons			32
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)			*
Physical Abuse			
Neglect			
Sexual Abuse			
Children in Foster Care	1	6	7
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	1,198	1,021	2,221
Per Pupil Expenditures			$5,199
Teacher Salary (average)			$28,273
Special Education Services			269
Dropouts			14

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Children in Winn Parish

Louisiana
kids
count

Winn

	White	African American	TOTAL (includes all races)
POPULATION			
Total (1996)			17,014
Under 20 (1994)	3,143	1,916	5,090
Under 5 (1994)	720	479	1,206
POVERTY (1993)			
% Persons in Poverty			26.8
% Children Age 5 to 17 in Poverty			30.3
EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME (1997)			
Median Family Income			$29,200
% Unemployed			8.8
Number Unemployed			580
CHILDREN RECEIVING (fiscal year 1996)			
AFDC			591
Medicaid			1,354
Food Stamps			1,208
WIC			627
Child Care Assistance			9
Child Care Assistance Waiting List			2
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (1995)			
Live Births	135	84	220
% Births to Teens	20.7	32.1	25.5
% Low Birthweight Babies	10.4	15.5	12.3
% Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care	57.1	41.5	51.4
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	7.4	0	4.5
% Up-to-date Immunization (public clinics 1996)			85.0
CHILDREN IN TROUBLE (fiscal year 1996)			
Children in Custody/Under Supervision of the Office of Youth Development	17	13	30
Crimes Against Property			7
Crimes Against Persons			20
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (fiscal year 1996)			
Abuse and Neglect Cases Found Valid (# of children)	52	38	92
Physical Abuse	9	1	10
Neglect	34	36	72
Sexual Abuse	9	1	10
Children in Foster Care	5	8	13
PUBLIC EDUCATION (1994-95 school year)			
Registration	2,039	1,246	3,299
Per Pupil Expenditures			$4,642
Teacher Salary (average)			$23,544
Special Education Services			383
Dropouts			54

* Refer to "Notes and Sources" for explanation

Trends and Notes

CHILDREN OF TOMORROW

We are the children of tomorrow
Forgotten by yesterday
Halfway between night and day
I lean against a star.

We are the children of tomorrow
Lost for years among the darkness
Disguised with masks
Hidden by today.

I live in a city of riddles
Lost for years among life
Halfway between life and death
Locked into the future.

I lean against nothing
Halfway between the sun and the moon
Locked into today
Forgotten by yesterdays
Traveling for days to reach tomorrow.

- *Reginald Delmore*
7th grade, New Orleans

Live Births

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Acadia	982	962	918	922	910
Allen	360	322	337	327	317
Ascension	1,094	1,044	1,123	1,095	1,110
Assumption	351	379	349	321	321
Avoyelles	629	616	565	577	591
Beauregard	527	547	555	441	475
Bienville	254	232	222	216	209
Bossier	1,437	1,369	1,347	1,291	1,370
Caddo	4,116	4,114	3,699	3,753	3,581
Calcasieu	2,782	2,765	2,812	2,784	2,637
Caldwell	152	156	118	115	119
Cameron	130	112	100	126	114
Catahoula	193	171	151	124	153
Claiborne	251	229	206	227	194
Concordia	315	287	312	332	321
DeSoto	431	404	435	405	361
East Baton Rouge	6,585	6,631	6,525	6,279	6,183
East Carroll	228	176	225	175	186
East Feliciana	302	315	302	299	267
Evangeline	619	575	569	561	559
Franklin	361	341	288	330	342
Grant	252	266	264	256	284
Iberia	1,245	1,251	1,258	1,209	1,212
Iberville	589	564	567	476	459
Jackson	188	201	200	216	189
Jefferson	7,183	6,865	6,815	6,698	6,572
Jefferson Davis	544	502	489	476	524
Lafayette	2,913	2,907	2,924	2,923	2,819
Lafourche	1,448	1,339	1,348	1,267	1,243
LaSalle	184	195	209	167	167
Lincoln	548	547	546	575	500
Livingston	1,210	1,201	1,216	1,176	1,116
Madison	228	243	269	250	257
Morehouse	522	533	520	472	509
Natchitoches	533	559	569	542	559
Orleans	9,243	9,013	9,114	8,695	8,076
Ouachita	2,386	2,418	2,328	2,212	2,176
Plaquemines	429	470	402	422	402
Pointe Coupee	358	353	371	370	325
Rapides	2,201	2,042	1,947	1,925	1,862
Red River	157	155	139	162	143
Richland	365	366	327	336	314
Sabine	347	342	294	304	283
St. Bernard	948	950	940	878	880
St. Charles	773	748	733	778	711
St. Helena	137	106	105	128	118
St. James	371	376	384	350	349
St. John	738	729	745	730	661
St. Landry	1,466	1,455	1,326	1,347	1,347
St. Martin	747	775	795	731	728
St. Mary	1,095	1,053	988	959	800
St. Tammany	2,344	2,320	2,366	2,481	2,488
Tangipahoa	1,637	1,617	1,612	1,554	1,554
Tensas	103	102	90	109	108
Terrebonne	1,753	1,764	1,740	1,674	1,520
Union	314	296	292	269	299
Vermillion	809	777	740	729	717
Vernon	1,487	1,295	1,068	1,197	1,011
Washington	693	628	663	620	608
Webster	599	522	568	594	552
West Baton Rouge	347	346	374	337	337
West Carroll	187	172	168	135	163
West Feliciana	134	163	136	146	92
Winn	226	229	221	227	220
State	72,080	70,502	69,328	67,802	65,574

The number of children born in Louisiana each year has steadily decreased since 1991.

Births to Women Under 19 Years of Age per 100 Live Births to Women of All Ages by Race and Parish: 1993; 1995

	white		African American		total	
	1993	1995	1993	1995	1993	1995
Acadia	17.5	17	31.6	31.6	21.2	21.2
Allen	19.1	21.2	29.1	27.5	21.7	22.1
Ascension	10.3	12.7	21.7	23.7	13.5	15.7
Assumption	7.8	10.7	23.2	31	14.9	19.6
Avoyelles	18.5	15.9	26.5	30.1	21.6	20.5
Beauregard	19.9	15.2	31.0	30.1	21.8	17.5
Bienville	17.9	13.6	23.5	25.2	20.7	19.1
Bossier	10.9	12.1	25.3	27.4	15.3	15.8
Caddo	11.8	11.4	27.7	28.1	20.3	20.2
Calcasieu	15.9	15.6	26.0	28.7	19.0	19.3
Caldwell	20.8	18.7	27.3	32.1	22.0	21.8
Cameron	13.8	16.2	33.3	0	15.0	14.9
Catahoula	23.9	19.8	32.2	36.2	27.2	24.8
Claiborne	27.4	14.5	26.3	21.8	26.7	18.6
Concordia	18.4	23.2	40.6	43.8	30.1	33
DeSoto	18.8	14.4	22.3	32.5	20.9	24.4
East Baton Rouge	7.6	7	22.2	23.9	14.4	14.8
East Carroll	18.4	10.5	37.9	33.1	33.3	28.5
East Feliciana	11.2	10.3	25.3	25.5	18.5	16.9
Evangeline	20.9	20.5	28.7	28.8	23.9	23.8
Franklin	21.1	19.8	36.4	31.4	28.5	25.1
Grant	21.3	22.2	40.5	25.6	24.6	22.5
Iberia	14.2	17.8	29.7	33.8	21.3	25
Iberville	18.1	12.3	22.0	23.7	20.3	18.7
Jackson	11.4	20.2	27.9	26.7	17.0	22.2
Jefferson	10.0	11.4	25.0	27.3	14.4	15.8
Jefferson Davis	13.4	18.2	33.3	34.2	17.8	21.8
Lafayette	7.8	10.2	23.6	25.5	13.1	14.9
Lafourche	14.1	15.4	27.1	31.5	16.8	18.8
LaSalle	21.3	16.6	33.3	43.8	23.0	19.2
Lincoln	12.5	10	27.5	26.1	19.8	18
Livingston	16.6	16.6	30.0	29	17.7	17.6
Madison	24.6	24.3	32.0	30.1	30.1	28.4
Morehouse	20.0	24.5	41.1	36.2	32.3	31
Natchitoches	15.7	16.9	29.5	31.8	23.2	24.5
Orleans	5.8	4.3	27.8	27	23.3	22.3
Ouachita	14.8	13.4	31.5	29	22.5	20.4
Plaquemines	19.5	14.2	23.9	24.6	20.9	17.2
Pointe Coupee	13.0	11.2	22.0	28	17.3	19.7
Rapides	15.5	16	28.8	30.5	20.7	21.4
Red River	9.7	14.5	23.9	24.2	16.5	18.9
Richland	20.0	23.2	33.9	36.5	27.5	29.9
Sabine	18.7	21.4	36.1	36.4	23.5	25.1
St. Bernard	14.0	15.3	28.0	19.7	15.3	15.6
St. Charles	9.1	7.1	26.3	26.3	14.9	13.4
St. Helena	9.1	22.2	20.8	23.4	14.3	22.9
St. James	10.5	8.8	22.5	25.9	17.7	18.6
St. John	10.1	10.7	22.1	26.4	15.6	17.2
St. Landry	16.3	14.3	23.2	25.3	19.7	19.7
St. Martin	12.0	15.8	19.7	22.4	15.6	18.3
St. Mary	13.8	19.1	24.3	30	17.7	22.9
St. Tammany	9.7	9.3	25.9	36.4	12.2	13.1
Tangipahoa	16.8	16.1	33.3	32.8	23.5	22.8
Tensas	16.2	18.6	34.0	40	26.7	31.5
Terrebonne	14.0	17	22.0	20.5	17.0	18.6
Union	22.2	15.9	25.6	36.7	23.6	22.7
Vermillion	15.0	18.2	26.0	23.9	17.4	19.2
Vernon	15.7	16.8	14.5	15	15.5	16.2
Washington	17.0	26.9	25.8	34.9	20.2	30.3
Webster	14.2	20.2	30.0	26.2	21.1	23
West Baton Rouge	11.8	11.2	21.7	22.8	16.0	16.3
West Carroll	15.0	19.5	32.6	25	19.6	20.9
West Feliciana	9.7	6	14.3	28.6	11.8	16.3
Winn	16.7	20.7	33.7	32.1	23.1	25.5
State	12.8	13.3	26.7	27.7	18.7	19.1

About one of every five babies born in Louisiana is to a teen mother.

Five-Year Average Annual Rate of Low Birthweight (under 2500 grams or 5.5 pounds) per 100 Live Births by Race and Parish: 1989-93:1991-1995

	white		black		total	
	1989-93	1991-95	1989-93	1991-95	1989-93	1991-95
Acadia	6.0	5.6	13.7	15.5	8.0	8.3
Allen	6.8	6.7	10.9	12.9	7.8	8.2
Ascension	6.2	6.7	13.6	12.6	8.5	8.4
Assumption	6.6	6.1	13.6	13.3	9.7	9.3
Avoyelles	6.3	7.1	12.5	12.4	8.7	9.0
Beauregard	5.6	6.1	7.3	9.9	6.0	6.8
Bienville	5.7	7.4	13.0	14.5	9.8	11.1
Bossier	5.8	6.3	13.1	12.3	7.9	8.0
Caddo	6.1	6.6	13.9	14.7	10.3	10.9
Calcasieu	6.9	6.9	13.5	13.8	8.9	9.0
Caldwell	5.4	4.7	13.3	16.0	7.0	7.0
Cameron	8.4	9.6	11.9	10.3	8.6	9.6
Catahoula	5.3	4.5	13.2	10.4	8.4	6.7
Claiborne	4.8	6.8	10.7	12.8	8.7	10.6
Concordia	5.7	6.5	14.0	15.2	9.9	11.0
DeSoto	5.3	5.9	13.4	13.9	9.9	10.4
East Baton Rouge	5.7	5.9	14.9	15.0	10.0	10.2
East Carroll	6.6	6.8	12.7	13.9	11.5	12.4
East Feliciana	6.7	7.3	13.2	13.7	10.2	10.5
Evangeline	7.7	6.5	14.4	15.7	10.4	10.1
Franklin	6.1	5.5	13.5	12.8	9.6	8.9
Grant	8.3	8.1	15.8	14.5	9.7	9.1
iberia	6.0	6.1	12.1	12.2	8.4	8.7
Iberville	7.0	7.3	14.6	15.1	11.5	11.9
Jackson	5.7	5.1	12.6	11.7	8.1	7.6
Jefferson	6.0	6.2	13.1	13.0	8.0	8.1
Jefferson Davis	5.6	6.0	10.9	10.9	6.9	7.2
Lafayette	6.2	6.4	14.9	15.3	8.9	9.2
Lafourche	5.9	6.7	14.9	13.4	7.8	8.1
LaSalle	6.6	7.2	14.6	14.2	8.2	8.4
Lincoln	5.0	6.3	13.4	13.3	9.0	9.9
Livingston	7.1	7.2	17.4	17.4	8.0	8.0
Madison	9.1	7.8	14.5	14.3	13.1	12.6
Morehouse	7.0	6.9	11.9	12.8	9.7	10.1
Natchitoches	6.3	5.8	11.3	12.2	8.9	9.2
Orleans	5.8	5.9	14.2	13.9	12.3	12.2
Ouachita	5.5	5.7	13.4	13.8	9.1	9.4
Plaquemines	5.9	6.0	11.4	10.4	7.3	7.2
Pointe Coupee	4.9	5.2	13.8	14.6	9.4	9.9
Rapides	6.7	6.5	14.0	13.2	9.5	9.1
Red River	5.0	6.7	12.7	15.0	8.6	10.7
Richland	5.8	6.8	11.5	13.4	8.7	10.2
Sabine	5.6	6.3	14.0	12.8	8.0	8.1
St. Bernard	6.9	6.7	16.4	18.0	7.7	7.8
St. Charles	5.9	5.7	13.6	15.8	8.4	9.0
St. Helena	9.0	10.1	11.1	12.0	10.1	11.1
St. James	6.4	6.8	11.2	11.9	9.2	9.8
St. John	4.7	6.2	12.1	12.3	8.0	8.9
St. Landry	6.5	7.2	13.1	13.4	9.9	10.3
St. Martin	7.3	7.3	13.4	13.2	9.9	9.9
St. Mary	5.6	5.8	11.4	11.9	7.8	8.1
St. Tammany	6.0	5.8	12.5	12.2	7.0	6.8
Tangipahoa	6.6	6.9	15.2	16.4	10.4	10.9
Tensas	5.8	4.2	14.4	15.4	11.4	11.1
Terrebonne	6.9	7.4	14.1	12.9	8.7	8.6
Union	7.1	7.3	12.6	13.8	9.3	9.7
Vermillion	5.6	5.8	16.6	16.0	8.2	8.4
Vernon	5.7	6.1	10.2	10.9	6.8	7.3
Washington	6.7	6.6	11.3	12.7	8.5	9.0
Webster	6.3	6.8	12.6	13.3	9.1	9.7
West Baton Rouge	5.8	4.7	15.0	13.5	9.8	8.6
West Carroll	6.1	7.0	16.7	13.3	9.0	8.6
West Feliciana	4.7	3.7	9.9	11.5	7.3	7.5
Winn	5.8	6.5	10.3	13.0	7.5	8.9
State	6.2	6.3	13.7	13.8	9.3	9.5

Louisiana's overall low birthweight is the third highest among the states and Washington D.C.

Adequate Prenatal Care by Race and Parish: 1993; 1995

	white		African American		total	
	1993	1995	1993	1995	1993	1995
Acadia	71.9	58.8	48.8	29.7	65.7	50.3
Allen	68.8	67.9	47.7	48.5	63.0	63.3
Ascension	83.3	86.5	58.7	61.3	76.3	79.5
Assumption	76.4	77.4	75.3	72.9	75.7	75.5
Avoyelles	67.6	75.2	41.4	42.8	57.1	64.4
Beauregard	63.1	65.9	33.3	30.6	58.5	60.7
Bienville	75.5	74.3	39.5	48.5	57.0	61.5
Bossier	85.8	86.1	58.8	60.3	77.2	79.5
Caddo	84.1	86.2	56.4	57.3	69.1	71
Calcasieu	81.3	85	65.6	67.6	76.3	80
Caldwell	74.5	82.4	59.1	75	71.6	80.7
Cameron	83.9	87.6	16.7	100	79.8	88.6
Catahoula	82.6	79.2	59.3	63	73.5	74.3
Claiborne	78.1	79.3	39.7	58.2	53.4	67.4
Concordia	78.8	86	56.7	58.3	67.1	72.7
DeSoto	80.9	86.5	59.7	55.1	68.2	68.8
East Baton Rouge	87.7	89.8	55.2	66.1	72.0	78.3
East Carroll	87.8	76.3	48.5	50.7	57.2	55.9
East Feliciana	78.7	82.3	50.0	46.8	63.7	67.7
Evangeline	76.4	70.4	47.8	51.1	65.1	62.7
Franklin	77.6	84	54.7	64.3	66.2	74.6
Grant	68.5	78.6	35.7	66.7	63.0	77
Iberia	76.3	81.2	51.2	50.4	64.6	66.9
Iberville	85.8	91.2	54.2	63.8	67.9	75.4
Jackson	55.3	65.9	31.3	39.7	47.2	57.8
Jefferson	85.3	88.5	62.5	67.3	77.9	81.6
Jefferson Davis	65.9	68.9	37.0	41.5	59.5	62.6
Lafayette	85.6	81.4	58.1	53.3	76.2	72.5
Lafourche	75.6	83.4	71.4	85	74.6	83.4
LaSalle	70.0	70	51.5	25	66.8	65.7
Lincoln	57.1	62.2	30.5	35.2	44.0	48.6
Livingston	85.2	82.3	61.5	50.5	83.3	79.8
Madison	66.2	67.6	47.2	52.5	52.1	56.8
Morehouse	57.8	64.5	49.8	38.5	53.2	50
Natchitoches	72.2	82.3	52.8	65.7	61.4	73.7
Orleans	85.3	86.1	60.8	61.1	64.9	65.8
Ouachita	81.4	89.1	48.6	64.8	66.3	78.3
Plaquemines	82.2	82.4	59.5	59.8	75.4	74
Pointe Coupee	82.3	85.6	54.2	67.3	68.2	76.5
Rapides	75.0	81.2	45.3	53.3	62.7	70.3
Red River	86.1	85.5	55.2	60.9	71.2	74.5
Richland	83.2	80.4	59.2	57	70.3	68.5
Sabine	71.2	80.6	53.0	48	66.2	72.9
St. Bernard	85.1	88.9	52.0	67.6	82.0	86.7
St. Charles	84.2	83.8	65.7	72.2	78.0	80
St. Helena	89.1	81.5	74.5	57.1	81.7	68.4
St. James	75.7	72.4	54.6	60.2	63.0	65.5
St. John	77.5	70.1	49.8	54.6	64.9	62.9
St. Landry	66.4	73.8	42.8	49.8	54.5	62
St. Martin	78.5	80.4	52.6	54.9	65.9	70.2
St. Mary	82.7	83.6	64.0	65.3	75.1	76.9
St. Tammany	88.1	90.9	65.9	66.8	84.5	87.3
Tangipahoa	86.3	84.8	69.1	69.6	79.2	78.8
Tensas	83.8	86.1	62.3	55.4	71.1	67.6
Terrebonne	72.5	76.7	67.2	75.8	70.2	75.9
Union	67.9	76.1	40.0	45.4	56.2	66.1
Vermillion	76.2	82.1	57.7	58.8	71.6	77.1
Vernon	69.4	76.4	65.6	77.1	68.6	76.8
Washington	71.7	79.8	33.0	46.2	57.4	65.6
Webster	83.7	83.3	58.2	60.1	72.5	72.6
West Baton Rouge	82.7	89.8	58.0	66	71.7	79.3
West Carroll	63.0	65.8	50.0	60	59.9	64.4
West Feliciana	84.5	92	49.2	56.1	68.2	75.8
Winn	54.1	57.1	36.6	41.5	47.5	51.4
State	80.6	83.1	56.7	60.3	70.1	73.5

The rate of adequate prenatal care improved from 1993 to 1995.

Five Year Average Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births by Race and Parish: 1989-93:1991-1995

	white		African American		total	
	1989-93	1991-95	1989-93	1991-95	1989-93	1991-95
Acadia	11.2	9.8	16.5	22.9	12.6	13.4
Allen	4.7	5.7	9.3	14.3	6.4	8.4
Ascension	5.0	5.7	14.8	13.9	8.0	8
Assumption	10.1	11.6	13.7	13	11.7	12.2
Avoyelles	7.1	7	9.5	10.7	8.0	8.4
Beauregard	5.4	5.2	10.8	12.1	6.3	6.3
Bienville	9.5	7.6	14.7	6.7	12.4	7.1
Bossier	6.7	5.4	12.6	12.7	8.3	7.5
Caddo	6.5	5.7	15.9	14.9	11.5	10.6
Calcasieu	8.5	7.7	14.9	14.2	10.4	9.6
Caldwell	14.4	9.5	7.0	30.5	12.9	13.6
Cameron	8.7	12.9			8.1	12
Catahoula	7.6		9.0	3.3	8.1	1.3
Claiborne		2.4	13.2	12.9	8.7	9
Concordia	13.0	10.5	17.1	16.2	15.1	13.4
DeSoto	15.5	13.6	11.5	13.9	13.2	13.8
East Baton Rouge	6.0	5.8	18.1	17.1	11.6	11.1
East Carroll	10.1	9.7	16.9	15.4	15.5	14.2
East Feliciana	8.5	11	20.0	23.9	14.8	17.5
Evangeline	6.8	5.1	15.7	15.2	10.3	9
Franklin	13.4	9	25.2	27.2	18.9	17.4
Grant	12.4	8.2	12.5	22.6	12.4	10.6
Iberia	6.5	7	13.1	14.1	9.2	10
Iberville	4.4	5.6	11.4	10.8	8.5	8.7
Jackson	7.5	9.6	11.2	16.3	8.8	12.1
Jefferson	8.0	6.8	13.3	14.7	9.2	8.8
Jefferson Davis	8.4	5.8	16.9	19.5	11.0	9.1
Lafayette	5.6	5	14.5	15	8.4	8.1
Lafourche	6.1	6	18.8	17.3	8.7	8.3
LaSalle	15.6	20.5	6.1		13.8	17.4
Lincoln	9.4	10	13.9	14.5	11.5	12.2
Livingston	9.7	9.4	13.9	20.2	10.0	10.3
Madison	6.7	6.2	24.3	18.4	19.8	15.2
Morehouse	13.6	13.4	16.3	19.6	15.1	16.8
Natchitoches	6.7	6.2	10.9	15	8.9	10.9
Orleans	8.9	7.2	16.3	14.5	14.5	12.8
Ouachita	10.5	7.7	15.5	15.8	12.8	11.4
Plaquemines	8.8	5.1	7.9	9.3	8.1	6.6
Pointe Coupee	2.3	7	15.5	7.8	9.0	7.3
Rapides	7.5	9.1	16.7	15.5	11.0	11.6
Red River	7.5	7.7	25.4	19.1	15.9	13.2
Richland	10.4	12.1	20.3	18.1	15.5	15.2
Sabine	7.7	8.3	12.3	8.8	9.0	8.3
St. Bernard	6.6	6.8	15.9	16.9	7.4	7.6
St. Charles	6.6	6	8.1	9.8	7.0	7.2
St. Helena	3.9	7.5	15.5	21.5	10.3	15.2
St. James	10.2	10.7	9.9	11.1	10.0	10.9
St. John	2.8	5.6	14.0	14.4	7.6	9.4
St. Landry	7.1	7.1	17.2	17.6	12.2	12.4
St. Martin	6.7	6.1	12.8	13	9.5	9
St. Mary	8.4	6.3	12.8	16.9	9.8	10.2
St. Tammany	7.1	6.2	17.1	18	8.5	7.8
Tangipahoa	10.4	9.5	15.1	13	12.4	10.9
Tensas	10.4	5.2	20.2	18.9	16.7	13.7
Terrebonne	8.0	8.3	16.8	16.7	9.9	9.9
Union	6.5	6.5	11.6	16.4	8.5	10.2
Vermillion	5.8	6.1	22.3	18.9	9.7	9
Vernon	9.1	9.9	12.8	18	9.7	11.4
Washington	10.0	8.3	16.7	20.5	12.6	13.1
Webster	5.6	4.5	16.4	13.4	10.4	8.5
West Baton Rouge	6.8	4.1	10.5	9.2	8.4	6.3
West Carroll	9.8	13.1	12.8		10.6	9.7
West Feliciana	5.8	5.7	12.0	24.9	8.9	14.9
Winn	8.3	14.4	4.5	9.4	6.9	12.5
State	7.7	7.1	15.5	15.2	10.9	10.4

The rate of death of African American infants is more than double that of white infants.

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Child Abuse and Neglect

	fiscal yr. 1993	fiscal yr. 1994	fiscal yr. 1995	fiscal yr. 1996
Acadia	250	227	294	294
Allen	176	141	122	96
Ascension	102	81	95	135
Assumption	*	*	*	*
Avoyelles	121	135	156	128
Beauregard	219	171	147	201
Bienville	*	*	*	*
Bossier	382	273	216	326
Caddo	1,065	980	697	1020
Calcasieu	626	574	872	657
Caldwell	*	*	*	*
Cameron	*	*	*	*
Catahoula	140	105	93	118
Claiborne	*	*	*	*
Concordia	106	40	23	71
DeSoto	89	133	100	74
East Baton Rouge	989	998	796	661
East Carroll	106	214	161	133
East Feliciana	59	59	82	147
Evangeline	102	114	103	138
Franklin	48	74	38	82
Grant	60	88	106	124
Iberia	188	191	217	222
Iberville	84	87	107	106
Jackson	*	*	*	*
Jefferson	1,183	1,259	801	1302
Jefferson Davis	189	139	101	182
Lafayette	532	466	448	383
Lafourche	451	339	319	286
LaSalle	*	*	*	*
Lincoln	256	172	139	105
Livingston	302	386	182	274
Madison	115	59	105	64
Morehouse	123	130	128	90
Natchitoches	371	356	276	270
Orleans	2,706	3,478	2,301	2077
Ouachita	771	898	913	804
Plaquemines	120	155	162	175
Pointe Coupee	56	81	65	131
Rapides	589	627	660	681
Red River	*	*	*	*
Richland	84	78	41	40
Sabine	126	82	87	132
St. Bernard	146	204	118	184
St. Charles	*	*	*	*
St. Helena	*	*	*	*
St. James	*	*	*	*
St. John	189	206	229	215
St. Landry	292	307	398	255
St. Martin	68	111	42	181
St. Mary	158	157	172	164
St. Tammany	390	420	445	508
Tangipahoa	272	205	210	155
Tensas	*	*	*	*
Terrebonne	482	295	171	279
Union	59	66	56	64
Vermillion	125	188	189	117
Vernon	295	332	315	385
Washington	111	108	121	148
Webster	185	171	301	241
West Baton Rouge	*	*	*	*
West Carroll	17	12	5	4
West Feliciana	*	*	*	*
Winn	19	106	73	92
State	15,705	16,197	14,795	14,863

Every 3 hours of every single day, five children are known to be abused or neglected.

Children in Foster Care

	fiscal yr. 1992	fiscal yr. 1993	fiscal yr. 1994	fiscal yr. 1995	fiscal yr. 1996
Acadia	86	77	73	84	66
Allen	58	49	43	56	64
Ascension	35	35	38	41	49
Assumption	20	28	32	31	37
Avoyelles	37	25	36	45	51
Beauregard	29	27	30	25	27
Bienville	18	19	20	20	27
Bossier	77	92	96	100	105
Caddo	296	374	364	339	287
Calcasieu	103	92	99	100	99
Caldwell	11	15	12	8	8
Cameron	1	0	3	3	4
Catahoula	10	12	20	15	17
Claiborne	16	17	17	13	14
Concordia	34	27	22	25	32
DeSoto	55	37	38	46	50
East Baton Rouge	405	435	464	454	413
East Carroll	63	55	21	23	30
East Feliciana	20	16	17	14	51
Evangeline	30	33	29	32	45
Franklin	22	22	25	22	32
Grant	20	27	16	17	17
Iberia	62	45	41	53	60
Iberville	50	60	48	59	48
Jackson	8	4	9	9	11
Jefferson	386	377	427	456	434
Jefferson Davis	21	32	30	28	26
Lafayette	79	80	128	129	126
Lafourche	59	54	78	76	72
LaSalle	21	13	15	29	26
Lincoln	75	70	55	72	65
Livingston	47	37	50	54	52
Madison	45	28	38	43	39
Morehouse	41	35	28	28	33
Natchitoches	61	64	57	73	94
Orleans	1,053	1,096	1,113	1,288	1,279
Ouachita	198	155	178	180	207
Plaquemines	21	17	13	18	21
Pointe Coupee	25	22	21	20	20
Rapides	199	209	216	250	270
Red River	13	7	15	17	15
Richland	14	23	25	19	22
Sabine	33	22	29	34	35
St. Bernard	40	47	46	51	49
St. Charles	60	50	47	52	44
St. Helena	27	20	24	23	30
St. James	29	23	34	34	39
St. John	72	45	51	53	67
St. Landry	160	141	109	127	153
St. Martin	89	89	59	72	70
St. Mary	55	42	34	39	48
St. Tammany	215	181	173	207	202
Tangipahoa	109	96	101	102	83
Tensas	27	21	8	11	10
Terrebonne	184	193	196	197	206
Union	29	20	14	17	22
Vermillion	48	38	38	40	37
Vernon	59	61	81	97	94
Washington	121	121	94	111	129
Webster	96	95	71	85	83
West Baton Rouge	13	21	10	13	11
West Carroll	18	13	11	17	18
West Feliciana	10	6	5	5	7
Winn	6	8	7	10	13
State	5,714	5,537	5,561	5,981	5,895

Each year since 1992, more than 5,500 children have been placed in foster care.

Children Receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children

	fiscal yr. 1992	fiscal yr. 1993	fiscal yr. 1994	fiscal yr. 1995	fiscal yr. 1996
Acadia	2,533	2,466	2,380	2,289	1,942
Allen	918	918	788	658	505
Ascension	2,451	2,415	2,306	2,220	1,851
Assumption	974	916	855	851	786
Avoyelles	2,142	2,055	1,807	1,434	1,397
Beauregard	757	760	744	630	570
Bienville	735	760	754	717	671
Bossier	2,080	2,096	1,981	1,836	1,519
Caddo	13,015	12,748	11,978	10,777	9,102
Calcasieu	5,065	4,941	4,584	4,330	3,353
Caldwell	333	350	325	324	292
Cameron	126	134	117	97	69
Catahoula	482	463	441	436	414
Claiborne	845	861	758	716	652
Concordia	1,242	1,131	1,033	997	1,005
DeSoto	1,380	1,389	1,300	1,186	1,043
East Baton Rouge	15,853	15,451	14,696	14,160	13,131
East Carroll	1,325	1,295	1,224	1,161	1,154
East Feliciana	1,034	1,023	909	847	670
Evangeline	2,002	1,969	1,875	1,851	1,861
Franklin	1,152	1,109	1,076	1,023	969
Grant	599	542	520	560	466
Iberia	2,788	2,709	2,676	2,679	2,627
Iberville	1,911	1,809	1,605	1,552	1,420
Jackson	561	556	532	477	439
Jefferson	13,508	13,550	13,324	13,308	11,903
Jefferson Davis	920	853	797	728	595
Lafayette	4,117	4,105	3,975	3,815	3,217
Lafourche	2,893	2,779	2,640	2,737	2,482
LaSalle	259	251	244	241	208
Lincoln	1,353	1,283	1,277	1,301	1,245
Livingston	1,226	1,202	1,107	984	835
Madison	1,344	1,325	1,243	1,068	978
Morehouse	2,013	1,933	1,687	1,463	1,349
Natchitoches	2,032	1,986	1,803	1,698	1,498
Orleans	49,677	49,778	48,274	45,777	41,895
Ouachita	6,631	6,458	6,132	6,097	5,567
Plaquemines	1,268	1,258	1,277	1,210	1,041
Pointe Coupee	1,239	1,190	1,141	1,069	895
Rapides	4,384	4,292	4,271	4,207	4,071
Red River	521	496	437	371	363
Richland	1,196	1,181	1,206	1,189	1,166
Sabine	838	805	713	651	601
St. Bernard	1,424	1,449	1,541	1,497	1,256
St. Charles	1,347	1,285	1,160	945	909
St. Helena	449	420	426	343	313
St. James	1,230	1,213	1,131	1,029	894
St. John	1,851	1,838	1,776	1,778	1,420
St. Landry	5,334	5,237	4,802	4,672	4,605
St. Martin	1,315	1,286	1,265	1,338	1,324
St. Mary	2,741	2,694	2,673	2,597	2,355
St. Tammany	2,260	2,177	2,035	2,016	1,707
Tangipahoa	5,196	4,854	4,353	4,431	3,800
Tensas	628	604	552	518	478
Terrebonne	3,204	3,072	2,850	2,812	2,520
Union	620	545	495	478	433
Vermillion	1,704	1,692	1,615	1,499	1,294
Vernon	861	865	845	866	702
Washington	2,104	2,006	1,918	1,906	1,727
Webster	1,360	1,331	1,327	1,252	1,085
West Baton Rouge	841	849	802	762	609
West Carroll	374	362	330	358	339
West Feliciana	359	356	365	321	216
Winn	785	743	716	684	591
State	193,705	190,469	181,786	173,825	156,392

Significantly fewer children are on AFDC than in 1992.

Percent Female Householder Families with Children (under age 18 & under age 5) in Poverty

1990 census

	white		African American		total	
	Under 18	Under 5	Under 18	Under 5	Under 18	Under 5
Acadia	57.2	60	88.5	64.8	75.1	85.5
Allen	59.9	54.3	85.8	100	71.1	86.5
Ascension	45.3	72.1	72.3	51.7	61.1	59.4
Assumption	40.9	27.8	76	72.9	64.8	71.3
Avoyelles	69.6	83.3	87.3	90.5	81.4	92
Beauregard	39.9	49.2	78	70.5	58.2	63.8
Bienville	57.2	51.9	73.7	77.9	69.6	73.7
Bossier	30.6	41.5	73.1	67.2	50.4	63.7
Caddo	25.7	37.2	69.7	75	59	74.3
Calcasieu	40.6	47	69.7	68.7	55.2	70.6
Caldwell	50.7	78.3	86	89.3	64.7	83.9
Cameron	38.2	44.4	100	0	48.1	53.1
Catahoula	60	100	76.1	73.9	71.7	86.2
Claiborne	22.1	0	74.1	83.1	66.1	78.2
Concordia	36	38.9	81.5	71.9	70.7	80.2
DeSoto	34.1	66.7	76	81.5	68.1	84.7
East Baton Rouge	21.6	34.1	65.9	69.1	52.7	68.1
East Carroll	76.2	100	91	75.8	89.8	92.3
East Feliciana	47.3	100	68.6	48.6	64	79.9
Evangeline	58.3	91.2	85.8	100	73.4	94.7
Franklin	60.8	100	84.9	85.9	77	87.8
Grant	55.9	90	68.8	52.3	60.4	70.6
Iberia	41.4	45.8	70.5	61.8	59.8	68.9
Iberville	59.1	78	68.7	87.6	66.3	81.9
Jackson	50.8	92.9	72.7	75.5	64.4	84.6
Jefferson	28.4	31.1	64.1	67	45	56.6
Jefferson Davis	51.3	100	76.8	75.7	63.4	78.2
Lafayette	31.2	39.9	76.4	78.6	55.1	72.2
Lafourche	51.1	48.5	88.6	77.6	69	76
LaSalle	36.7	28.6	66.4	66.7	51.3	70
Lincoln	36	39.6	69	72.7	60.4	74.1
Livingston	37.1	57.8	78.5	92.6	44.9	65.5
Madison	19	27.3	87.3	81.5	82	81.4
Morehouse	36	52.8	79	75.4	71.1	81.3
Natchitoches	60	80.3	80.4	73	74.8	83.7
Orleans	26.2	35.4	66.7	72.9	63.2	75.6
Ouachita	31.4	25.8	73.7	77.3	60	75.6
Plaquemines	45.2	60.7	73.9	83.3	64.3	82.1
Pointe Coupee	55.4	63.2	79.8	83.1	75.2	85.4
Rapides	39.5	53.9	73	82	60.6	77.4
Red River	63.8	92.9	82.9	93.5	78.4	87.4
Richland	59.9	0	86.6	89.6	81	84.6
Sabine	55.6	61.6	90	100	73.5	78.6
St. Bernard	36.8	35.7	81.3	62.5	43.4	58.5
St. Charles	22.9	39.7	66.1	72.1	49.6	61.3
St. Helena	35.6	0	76	83.6	71.5	77.4
St. James	38.1	100	69	64.5	65.9	76.9
St. John	23.2	42.9	74.4	73.2	59.9	71.7
St. Landry	56.9	76.8	86.7	83.1	79.5	87
St. Martin	36.9	43.3	73.2	58	60.5	65.8
St. Mary	45.3	57.4	71.9	79.8	63.4	74.1
St. Tammany	35.1	41.6	59.8	36.8	42	57.3
Tangipahoa	50.8	67	77.8	77.1	68.6	79.9
Tensas	55.6	50	83.9	93.5	81.2	86.6
Terrebonne	40.5	56.5	79.5	68.9	60.7	77.6
Union	39.5	17.1	74.4	68.8	61.5	69.4
Vermillion	53.4	58.5	83.5	87	66.8	82.9
Vernon	54.5	53.3	49.9	50	54.6	62.7
Washington	50	58.4	82.9	85.9	70.8	81
Webster	47	65	70.2	81.1	62.7	76.4
West Baton Rouge	41.4	59	67.6	50.8	59	68.4
West Carroll	58	90.9	89	100	76.7	92.6
West Feliciana	46.7	14.3	80.1	80	71	75.5
Winn	45.7	57.1	86.8	86.2	72.7	75.6
State	36.9	46.6	71.4	73.2	60.1	73.7

Louisiana kids count

Percent Children in Poverty

1990 census

	white		African American		total	
	Under 18	Under 5	Under 18	Under 5	Under 18	Under 5
Acadia	25.9	26.1	76.4	75.8	37.1	38
Allen	26.1	23.9	61.3	69.8	36	36.2
Ascension	10.1	11.6	54.3	51.5	22	23.2
Assumption	22.1	16.1	62.9	66.4	37.5	34.6
Avoyelles	31	37.3	73.7	81.8	45.2	53.5
Beauregard	16.6	18.6	53.4	44	22.5	22.3
Bienville	25.2	20.9	55.9	59.3	40.1	40.8
Bossier	11.6	15.1	51.2	58.1	22	26.9
Caddo	10.3	11.1	56.9	64.3	34.2	38.8
Calcasieu	13.7	17	49.3	57.4	23.5	27.9
Caldwell	29	10.9	62.1	41.4	36.5	31.7
Cameron	14.9	9.4	52.1	43.6	16.4	11
Catahoula	34.6	44.3	71.5	79.3	46.6	57.1
Claiborne	9.2	11.1	66.2	76.4	39.1	47.3
Concordia	18.2	15.8	67.4	69.7	39.5	37.7
DeSoto	12.6	13.4	62.8	70.5	37.8	43.1
East Baton Rouge	7.5	9.1	47.6	52.1	25	28
East Carroll	24.1	30.2	85.5	84.5	70	70.8
East Feliciana	13.8	17.2	47.9	49.6	31.6	34.2
Evangeline	25.9	28.8	69.7	66.8	39.9	42.7
Franklin	25.6	26.7	71.8	72.9	44.3	46.6
Grant	25.5	30	54.7	51.2	30.5	34
Iberia	20.6	21	59.1	62.6	34.8	36.5
Iberville	18.5	16.1	50.6	51.6	35.5	35.7
Jackson	22.9	23.5	48.9	68.4	31.5	37.5
Jefferson	11.3	11.6	46.4	46.7	20.2	20.5
Jefferson Davis	23.5	22.2	62.1	58.4	32	30.6
Lafayette	12.4	12.8	55.4	60.9	24.5	25.6
Lafourche	20.1	19.9	74.6	74.2	30.2	30.2
LaSalle	19.8	18	45.5	40.5	22.8	20.7
Lincoln	10.5	12.4	52.9	60.8	28.4	34.5
Livingston	14.4	15.1	58.9	56.4	17.2	18.2
Madison	19.3	23.1	74	71	57.8	56.6
Morehouse	17.3	17.7	66.7	73.6	43.1	46.4
Natchitoches	22.6	23.8	69.2	70.8	45.2	47.9
Orleans	10.3	9.8	55.3	60	46.2	48.8
Ouachita	13.5	13.7	64.1	71.7	34.4	38.9
Plaquemines	17.3	18.9	51.3	52	29.2	30.6
Pointe Coupee	16.3	12.8	57.9	58.8	36.1	35.3
Rapides	15.6	15.6	58.1	65.1	30.3	32.5
Red River	21.9	29.8	67.8	79.4	43.8	53.9
Richland	21.5	17.6	70.3	78	43.9	46.9
Sabine	24	24.5	71.4	82.3	36.1	38.5
St. Bernard	16.9	17.6	60.9	71.8	19.8	21.3
St. Charles	7.9	6.9	47.5	50.8	18.9	19.2
St. Helena	12.8	12.2	63.2	61.6	42.1	40.6
St. James	6.9	6.8	54	59.5	33	36.8
St. John	7.5	7.9	47.4	48.9	23.8	23.7
St. Landry	24.5	27.8	65.8	70.5	43.8	48.5
St. Martin	17.6	20.1	54.6	51.4	32.5	32.8
St. Mary	18.1	20.9	55.9	54.1	34	35.4
St. Tammany	12.3	11.3	48.9	48.1	17	16.4
Tangipahoa	23.5	23.1	68.8	73.4	40.9	42.6
Tensas	32.3	34.4	76.2	87.5	59.6	67.4
Terrebonne	19.4	21.6	62.7	70.2	31.3	35.7
Union	17.8	19.8	56.7	53.9	30.7	32.5
Vermillion	24.9	25.8	69.1	66.4	33.1	35.7
Vernon	22.7	23	19.1	21.1	21.9	23.7
Washington	28.4	30.1	65.1	67.6	41.8	44.3
Webster	18	19.1	56.3	58.9	32.5	34.9
West Baton Rouge	10.5	10.5	52.2	59.1	27.1	29.7
West Carroll	23	30.7	81.5	81.5	35.4	43.6
West Feliciana	14.1	11.8	70.6	76	41.1	45.5
Winn	19.9	22.2	59	50.7	33.5	33.6
State	15.4	16.1	56.5	60.3	31.4	33.5

Data Notes & Sources

POPULATION

1996 Estimates of total population by parish.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates Branch.

1994 Estimates of the resident population by age, race, and parish.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

POVERTY

Poverty, 1993 These figures are the most current parish-level poverty estimates as of April, 1997. Estimates are for the total population and for children ages 5 to 17 (updated estimates for children under age 5 are expected later in 1997). The statistical model used to develop these estimates relates poverty to data from federal income tax returns, participation in the Food Stamps and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs, and the previous census. These estimates are then combined with direct estimates based on the Current Population Survey (CPS) sample to provide estimates which are more precise than either set alone. Because of differences in methodology, these figures don't compare directly with the poverty figures from the decennial census. There is a trade-off between more statistically precise but outdated 1990 census results and the less statistically precise but more current model-based estimates.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

1990 Census Poverty The poverty figures in the back of the book reflect individuals and families who fell below the federal poverty threshold as reported in the 1990 Census. The poverty threshold is the annual income level which is three times the estimate of what a family spends on food in a year. The poverty threshold is adjusted for family size and revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index. The poverty threshold for a family of four persons was $12,674 at the time these figures were calculated. Poverty thresholds were applied on a national basis and were not adjusted for regional, state, or local variations in the cost of living. These estimates don't compare directly with the 1993 estimates of poverty.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

Median Family Income Federal fiscal year 1997 estimates of median family income developed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Estimates are based on 1990 census data estimates updated with a combination of local Bureau of Labor Statistics data and census divisional data. Separate median family income estimates are calculated for all Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Primary Metropolitan Statistics (PMSAs) and nonmetropolitan counties. An asterisk (*) preceeding the data in this category indicates that the MSA median, rather than individual parish median, was reported as follows:

East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Livingston, and Ascension parishes are included in the Baton Rouge MSA.

Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes are included in the Houma MSA.

St. Martin, Lafayette, Acadia and St. Landry parishes are included in the Lafayette MSA.

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Tammany, St. Bernard, St. John and St. Charles parishes are included in the New Orleans MSA.

Caddo, Bossier, and Webster parishes are included in the Shreveport-Bossier City MSA.
Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic and Market Analysis Division, Office of Economic Affairs.

Unemployment Estimate of the civilian labor force 16 and over who are not employed and are actively seeking employment. Civilian labor force statistics developed in accordance with Bureau of Labor Statistics methodology. Rates are computed from unrounded data. Data is not seasonally adjusted. The number and rate in this book reflect preliminary data for January, 1997.
Source: Louisiana Department of Labor, Research and Statistics Division, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

CHILDREN RECEIVING:

AFDC Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) is a cash assistance program that states administer under federal supervision for families with children who meet specific eligibility requirements. The benefit amount is determined by the number of family members and the family's countable income. For example, a family of three with no accountable income will receive a grant of $190 per month in an urban area; $174 per month in a non-urban area. A family of three with countable income in excess of these amounts would be ineligible for AFDC benefits. The figures in this book reflect the average number of children receiving AFDC benefits each month in fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).
Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Medicaid The Medicaid program provides medical assistance to low-income persons who are age 65 or over, blind, disabled, or members of families with dependent children or qualified pregnant women or children. Pregnant women and children under the age of 6 whose income unit is less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines and children age 6 or older whose income unit is less than 100% of the federal guidelines may be considered for Medicaid. The data included here reflects individuals under the age of 21 who were eligible for Medicaid in December 1996.
Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Food Stamps The Food Stamp program is a federal public assistance program which provides food coupons which are exchanged for food. Households in Louisiana with gross income below 130% of the poverty level and net income below 100% of the poverty level may be eligible for Food Stamps. For example, the maximum net income for a family of three is $1,050 per month. The figures in this book reflect the number of children receiving Food Stamps each month, as well as the state average monthly coupon amount and household size in fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).
Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Social Services, Office of Family Support, Baton

Rouge, Louisiana.

WIC Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a federal food program which provides supplemental foods, nutritional screening and nutrition counseling to eligible low income pregnant women, new or nursing mothers, and children under age 5 who are at "nutritional risk." Eligibility is set by the federal government at 185% of the poverty level. WIC is not an entitlement program. The data contained in this book includes the average number of infants and children participating in the WIC program in fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).
Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Nutrition Services, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Child Care Assistance The number of children receiving child care subsidies through the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant and Title IV-A At-Risk child care programs during the month of June, 1996.

Child Care Assistance Waiting List The number of children who have been found eligible to receive Child Care Assistance and are waiting for funds to become available as of June, 1996.

Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Social Services, Child Care Assistance Program, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Earned Income Tax Credit (# of families, 1996) The number of families who received the Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC) in the first 8 months of 1996 based on completed 1995 income tax returns. The EIC is a refundable income tax credit for families who work at low and moderately low wages. The maximum income level for EIC eligibility in 1995 was $26,673.
Source: Internal Revenue Service, New Orleans District, New Orleans, Louisiana.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Live Births The total number of live births to women by race of mother, 1995.

Percent Births to Teens Live births to women ages 19 and under as a percentage of all live births to women of the same race, 1995.

Percent Low Birthweight Babies The total number of live births under 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) as a percentage of all live births to women of the same race, 1995.

Percent Women Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care Women delivering live infants and having adequate prenatal care by race, 1995. Prenatal care includes health care, counseling, and related services provided during pregnancy to assure the best possible health for both mother and child. Care should start in the first trimester and continue throughout pregnancy. One major focus of such care is screening/monitoring to identify conditions that might threaten the mother or the child. A second major focus is counseling and guidance relative to diet, alcohol, tobacco and other health concerns.

Infant Mortality Rate Number of deaths per 1,000 live-born children under one year of age by race of mother, 1995.

Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, State Center for Health Information, New Orleans, Louisiana.

% Children without Health Insurance An estimated percentage of children under age 18 not covered by public or private health insurance in 1995.
Source: Unpublished Current Population Survey Data, Poverty and Health Statistics Branch, HHES Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Child Death Rate The number of deaths of children between the ages of 1-14 years from all causes per 100,000 Louisiana residents of the same age, by race, 1995.

Teen Violent Death Rate The number of deaths of teens 15-19 years due to violence (including accidents, homicides and suicides) per 100,000 Louisiana residents of the same age, by race, 1995.

Teen Suicide Rate The number of deaths of teens 15-19 years due to suicide per 100,000 Louisiana residents of the same age, by race, 1995.

Teen Accident Death Rate The number of deaths of teens 15-19 years due to accidents per 100,000 Louisiana residents of the same age, by race, 1995.

Teen Homicide Rate The number of deaths of teens 15-19 years due to homicide and legal intervention per 100,000 Louisiana residents of the same age, by race, 1995.

Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, State Center for Health Information, New Orleans, Louisiana.

CHILDREN IN TROUBLE

Children in Custody/Under the Supervision of the Office of Youth Development (OYD) This includes children in custody (in secure and non-secure placements); children under supervision (including Informal Adjustment Agreements), cases that were referred to the Office of Youth Development but diverted from court, and cases still pending court action. The state total presented in this book is greater than the sum of children in custody in each parish because the state total includes cases which don't have a parish of commitment. An asterisk (*) in this category indicates that the parish has a probation office which operates independently of OYD, and therefore may have substantially more "youth in trouble" than reflected in this data. Data is for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 - June 30, 1996).

Crimes Against Property/Other The majority of crimes in this category are burglary, theft, drug offenses, public order, and status offenses. (A small number of burglaries should be considered crimes against persons because a person was present at the time the crime was committed.)

Crimes Against Persons Includes assault-battery, robbery, homicide, sex crimes, weapons offenses, and other violent and non-violent crimes against persons.

Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Office of Youth Development, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Valid Abuse and Neglect Cases (no. of children) The number of children who have been abused or neglected as determined by the state's office of Child Protective Services in the 1996 fiscal year (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996). Parishes with an asterisk (*) do not have parish-specific data available. Valid cases of abuse and neglect in these parishes are reflected in the figures for other parishes of the same region as follows:

Assumption	reflected in	Lafourche data
Bienville	"	Webster data
Caldwell	"	Ouachita data
Cameron	"	Calcasieu data
Claiborne	"	Webster data
Jackson	"	Lincoln data
LaSalle	"	Catahoula data
Red River	"	Natchitoches data
St. Charles	"	St. John data
St. Helena	"	Tangipahoa data
St. James	"	St. John data
Tensas	"	Madison data
West Baton Rouge	"	Iberville data
West Feliciana	"	East Feliciana data

Children in Foster Care The number of children who are the responsibility of the state in out-of-home placements during the last day of the calendar year as reported for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).

Source: State of Louisiana, Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, Information Management Unit, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Registration The total number of public school students on the first day of the 1994-1995 school year, including pre-kindergarten students.

Per Pupil Expenditures The expenditures per student in average daily membership in 1994-1995. Current expenditures include only instruction and support services and do not include adult education expenses.

Teacher Salary (average) The average salary paid to full-time public school teachers in 1994-95.

Pupils being served by exceptional children program 1994-95 Children identified as needing special education services including children with mental disabilities; hearing, speech and/or visual impairments; emotional/behavioral disorders, and other categories of special needs.

Dropouts 1994-95 Number of students in grades 7-12 who were enrolled in school at some time during the previous school year, had not graduated from high school or completed an approved education program, and do not meet any of the following exclusive conditions: transfer to another public school district, private school, or state or district approved education program; temporary absence due to suspension or school-approved illness or death. Special education students are excluded from the count if they attend no regular education classes.

note: the cities of Monroe and Bogalusa operate school systems independent of their respective parish systems. Figures for each city are as follows:

registration Bogalusa:
1,886(w) 1,594 (AA) 3,493 (Total)
registration Monroe:
1,495(w) 10,093 (AA) 11,638 (Total)

	Bogalusa	Monroe
per pupil expenditures	$4,188	$4,306
teacher salary (average)	$23,071	$24,654
special education	414	959
dropouts	62	161

Source: 145th Annual Financial and Statistical Report, Louisiana Department of Education, Office of Research and Development, Bureau of School Accountability, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

CHILD SUPPORT

Total Number of Cases A Child Support Enforcement case is defined as every absent parent who is now or may eventually be obligated under law for the support of one or more dependent children. The number in this book includes collection cases (cases in which an obligation for support has been established) and intake cases (cases in which an obligation has not yet been established), for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).

Percent Collection Cases to Total Cases The percent of cases in which an obligation for support has been established. An obligation is the legal establishment of an amount of money which is to be paid on a regular basis by a non-custodial parent for the support of that parent's children for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).

Amount Owed The actual dollar amount owed for all collection cases for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).

Amount Paid The dollar amount paid on all collection cases for fiscal year 1996 (July 1, 1995 through June 30, 1996).

Source: State of Louisiana, Office of Child Support Enforcement Services, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

A word about data.... Every attempt has been made to compile the latest and most accurate figures available on child well-being at the state and parish level. However, there are limitations to these figures. Some of the data, including census data on poverty, and uninsured children, are based on samples of the population and are subject to sampling variability. For other indicators, such as child support and the Earned Income Credit, parish level data were unavailable. For some health indicators, such as child death and teen violent death rates, data could not be presented on the parish level because the numbers were too small to calculate a meaningful rate.